

Thompson's Island Beacon

Vol. 2. No. 1.

PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS.

May 1898.

Our April Holidays

In Massachusetts the holidays are quite numerous. Some are anniversaries of noble, heroic events or deeds, while others are more local; but they all teach us good lessons which we here at the Farm School learn to study, an effort being made to have the special truth which each holiday contains brought out before us. Thus, Christmas and Easter we observe by holding exercises befitting them; while the Fourth of July and Washington's Birthday are celebrated, the former by fire-works and athletic contests, and the latter by a snow-ball battle. In this way, at each of these, the event which is commemorated is strongly impressed upon us.

April, this year, contained three holidays, each of which teaches us a different lesson. Easter, the first, bears the message of the resurrection of Christ from the tomb; Christ, the bearer of good news to men, Christ, the very essence of truth and love, the perfect man, the ideal character. This is one of the happiest holidays in the year, and the exercises held on that day are always of the best. This year the exercises were very interesting, and the programmes, which were printed at the Farm School printing office, were exceedingly pretty. The title of the exercise this year was, "Lovely Easter."

April 19th, Patriots' Day, commemorates one of the most noble events in our history, and teaches one of the grandest lessons of all the holidays. It is a lesson of patriotism, and firmness in the right. This year it bore a double significance, and was better understood than in past years, on account of our impending trouble with Spain. On this day, one hundred and twenty-three years ago, the

patriot Minute Men of Concord and Lexington made their firm stand against the English soldiers early in the morning, and before night drove them bleeding and breathless back to Boston from which they had come. We look back and imagine the Minute Man as the true representative American of that time. The statue which is erected in Concord shows us a strong, firm, sturdy character. It is a truly noble figure.

General Grant's Birthday comes on April 27th. Although this is not a legal holiday, it is a day which is very generally observed, and justly so. His is a character to be studied. We think more of Grant each year, and every one who views that magnificent monument erected to his memory, overlooking the beautiful Hudson, can but think how fitting the site and structure are to such a noble life.

And then comes Arbor Day; bright, joyous, and full of life. The lesson which this day bears is just as truly a lesson of patriotism as is that of Patriots' Day, only it comes in a different form. This year the weather was exceptionally fine and appropriate for such an occasion. In connection with our exercises, trees were planted and dedicated to two of our Managers who were passing the day here, Mr. Henry S. Grew and Mr. Francis Shaw. Both of these gentlemen we were pleased to have present at the exercises, and I am sure the Farm School boys will watch the growth of these two trees with special interest. The exercises, which were very bright and interesting, were held out doors. The programme will be found in this BEACON.

WILLIAM G. CUMMINGS.

Easter Concert Programme

VOLUNTARY	
INVOCATION	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
EASTER, LOVELY EASTER	
RESPONSIVE READING	<i>Class.</i>
RECITATION	<i>Edward L. Davis.</i>
GETTING READY FOR EASTER	
CAROL	<i>Choir.</i>
BREAK FORTH INTO SINGING	
EXERCISE	<i>Class.</i>
EASTER WISHES	
RECITATION	<i>George A. C. McKenzie.</i>
MY LITTLE SPECKLED HEN	
CAROL	<i>Choir.</i>
NATURE'S GLAD VOICES ARE SINGING	
RECITATION	<i>William Flynn.</i>
WILLIE'S EASTER EGGS	
SCRIPTURE TEXTS	<i>School.</i>
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
CHRIST HAS ROLLED THE STONE AWAY	
SCRIPTURE TEXTS	<i>School.</i>
RECITATION	<i>Alfred H. Malm.</i>
GREAT LESSONS BY LITTLE TEACHERS	
A RESPONSIVE EXERCISE	<i>Class.</i>
CAROL	<i>Choir.</i>
EASTER DAWN IS IN MY SOUL	
RECITATION	<i>Willard H. Rowell.</i>
BRING LILIES FOR EASTER DAY	
EXERCISE	<i>Class.</i>
THE LIGHT BEARERS	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
JESUS LIVES NO MORE TO DIE	
SCRIPTURE TEXTS	<i>Class.</i>
ADDRESS	<i>Mr. Fisher.</i>
CAROL	<i>Choir.</i>
THE LORD HATH REDEEMED US	
RECITATION	<i>Leo T. Decis.</i>
THE ENTHRONED CHRIST	
EXERCISE	<i>Class.</i>
THE SERMONS OF THE BELLS	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
LITTLE BELLS OF EASTER	

RECITATION

Joseph A. Carr.

LITTLE BY LITTLE

EXERCISE

Class.

EMBLEMS OF EASTER

CLOSING SONG

Choir.

FAREWELL, O BEAUTIFUL DAY

BENEDICTION

Police Department of Cottage Row

I am Chief of Police of Cottage Row. I have two patrolmen, Chester O. Sanborn and Samuel W. Webber. Our duty is to keep order on the play grounds and on the grounds of Cottage Row, and to see that no one breaks windows or does anything which would disturb others, or prevent them from having a good time. Any one who offends in this way is arrested and tried before the Court. If found guilty he is punished by being compelled to stay away from the cottages for a certain length of time, or is deprived of the privilege of holding office, or punished in some similar way.

WILLIAM C. CARR.

The Diver

April 22nd, Mr. Bradley hired a diver to come down to examine the piles under the wharf to see if they were worm-eaten. After dinner the boys went down to watch him and he proved to be very interesting to us. When we first went down he was under water, but we could always trace him because of the bad air coming from his helmet to the surface of the water in bubbles. Mr. Bradley tried the helmet he wore on a few boys, and I happened to be one of them. I laughed a little just as he put it on, but when I had it on I thought I was shouting. The helmet is made so that the air goes in through the tube in the back, then comes over the head in two partitions down to the face and nose, then it passes behind the ears out through the check valve in the back. The pump which supplies him with air, resembles a triple-expansion engine up side down, the cylinders being the pumps. Albert E. Gerry and Fred Hill were the pumpers. The boys stayed down about an hour watching the diver.

HIRAM C. HUGHES.

Easter Concert

Sunday, April 10th, we held our Easter exercises, as usual. We took all the plants from the different rooms in the house, and carried them to the school room. There must have been more than a hundred pots in all. We put them all around the stage, and there were plants in all the windows. We also had Easter lilies, pinks, and numerous other flowers which were bought in the city. The canary bird's cage hung from the ceiling. In one corner of the stage, on a table, was a large wire cage which contained a speckled hen and fourteen very pretty little chickens. The subject of the concert was "Lovely Easter." The program lasted an hour and a half. It was very interesting and pleasant.

CHARLES B. BARTLETT.

Why Our Flag is Flying

Wednesday, April 21st, at chapel in the evening, Mr. Bradley, after reading a little from newspapers, spoke to the boys about what war with Spain would mean. He said that as soon as a gun was fired our flag would go up, and stay until the war was ended. The next Friday we heard that the gunboat Nashville had fired upon a Spanish steamer. As soon as Mr. Berry and the boys heard of it, Mr. Berry got the flag, and our bugler gave a call, as the flag went up. It was twenty-five minutes past two, and all the house boys and school boys were out. They all gave three cheers and a tiger for the flag, and also for the Nashville. After we went into school we saluted our silk flag, the one which is kept in the school-room.

HENRY F. MCKENZIE.

Planting Early Potatoes

April fifteenth, Mr. Mason, Mr. Williams, three boys and myself went over to the potato piece to plant potatoes. Mr. Williams took the plow, and Mayott, who was the largest boy, led the horse. The next largest boy spread phosphate. The other boys and I put the potatoes at the side of the phosphate. We had just enough potatoes to finish the piece.

CHARLES A. TAYLOR.

Cutting Fodder

We cut hay and corn stalks for the cattle. We have a horse power in which we use one horse to run the hay cutter, thrashing machine, and a grain mill. The horse we use to run the power weighs about thirteen hundred pounds, and he is a good horse for that work. We have one man to feed and two boys to help. The first thing we do is to put down some corn stalks, then we cut the bands off the corn, put some hay down and start to cutting. Winters feeds the machine, and one boy gives the hay and stalks to him. I take it away from the cutter after it is cut and put it down to the cut-feed pen, where a small boy levels it off.

GEORGE MAYOTT.

Burning the Grass

We began burning the grass some time ago. We burn it to destroy the old grass and the weeds. Mr. Bradley asked Bartlett and myself to keep watch of the fire so it would not get to the oil barrels. Soon he told me to go into the laundry and get a pail of water to put the fire out when it got near the oil barrels. He put it out there and let the other part burn out. When it got near the little trees, all the boys who were helping at the work got branches and kept the fire from the trees by beating down the blaze. The smoke got into our eyes, and made them smart.

EDWARD C. CROWELL.

Sowing Onions

Recently we have been working on the onion piece. The first thing we did on it was to go along and pick up the largest stones. Next the boys took rakes and raked the smaller stones out, and smoothed the ground. There were some small boys to pick up piles of stones that the rakers made. After the rakers had two or three strips done, Mr. Mason took the sower and filled it with onion seed, and sowed the seed in rows. Then two boys got the small roller, and went up and down the rows that had been sowed. I rolled only half one afternoon.

CHARLES W. JORGENSEN.

Experience is a hard block to whittle, but every shaving is of priceless value to the whittler.

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Planning

By Hon. Samuel B. Capen.

There are a multitude of young men who are just entering the struggle of life, wanting to succeed, but not quite knowing what to do or how to do it. To such as these, thus facing the future, some suggestions as to the conditions of success may be timely.

This world is full of misfits. As a part of a machine is useful for the purpose for which it

was designed, and useless and worse than useless anywhere else, so many men today are making miserable failures because they are entirely out of their groove. A young man who has a taste for mechanism thinks, or his friends think, that if he can get a position as a clerk it will be a "cleaner" and nicer and more refined place, and so a good mechanic is spoiled to make a poor clerk. I have in mind one young man who lost precious years of time, and another whose life was almost a failure, because they were trying to do what God had not fitted them to do.

When you have found what you ought to do, then do it with a will. Do not *play* work, but work. It is enthusiasm today that wins. There is not the slightest chance for the young man who wants a "soft job," and whose principal thought is to get the most pay for the least work. Be not only ready but eager to do more than you are paid for. Let your employers make something out of you at first, and your real worth will soon be recognized. The old road to success is still open to those who are "all at it and always at it;" it is closed to all others.

Many start out well and then get discouraged at difficulties. There is no chance for Mr. Faintheart. Keep your eye steadily on the goal, and be not turned aside to the right or left. *Conquer the place you are in.* Men who do not know what "fail" means, never fail. We all need a persistent, definite purpose. Many people get nowhere in particular in this world because they are aiming nowhere. They are drifting, not sailing. Persistency prevents waste of time and strength; all our faculties are utilized for the end we have in view. No man can succeed today in the competition of business unless he keeps his faculties concentrated in some given direction. Only specialists have

any chance. You must do something better than others if you would win any prize; and such success comes only from persistence.

Be conscientious in performing the smallest details thoroughly. Never slight anything because you feel that you are unnoticed. *You* know it is wrong, if no one else does. Be true to yourself, for if you do not, you will find your own conscience a very troublesome traveling companion all the journey. "As the avalanche is made up of tiny snowflakes, as the cornfield of individual kernels, as the oratorio of single notes," so our characters are formed by little things, and the man who is faithless here can never succeed.

No young man can do faithfully any work unless he be temperate and pure. The evils of intemperance are so often dwelt upon that young men are on their guard at this point. To use intoxicating liquors in any form is a barrier to any progress. Alcohol is a poison, and the temperate young man will win, other things being equal, every time. But the perils of impurity are not so often emphasized. That is the most direct road which the devil has prepared to the world of despair. Shun the very beginnings of evil. Refuse to keep company with those who tell the questionable story, and who speak slightly of that which is pure and innocent. Avoid such men as you would the pestilence. No matter if they seem good in other respects. As a chemist can tell from one drop of blood that there is poison in the veins, as a chip will tell the current of a stream, so in these beginnings there are the seeds of disease which will surely end in failure and moral death. Beware of harboring impure thoughts, for they are like the spark in the hold of a ship; it will work its way right and left, until there is a bed of fire under your feet, and destruction is at hand.

You will not be able to keep doing faithfully, with a pure heart, any work alone. This business of life is a serious one, and you need a partner. The Lord Jesus Christ offers to become such to each and every young man. He will furnish just the kind of capital you need. Where you are weak, He will make you strong; when you are discouraged, He will inspire you. And "no man is a man," in the fullest and best sense, "till he touches God." Who wants to live in the cellar in the dark, when he can dwell in the sunshine? Young men need to come up, not only above their appetites and passions, but above selfishness and meanness as well; up into their higher natures, where Christ can and will be one with them. And unless we do thus unite our destinies with Christ, our life is sure to be a failure; for we have missed the first object of life. It needs ever to be remembered by young men that that object is not wealth, or fame, or power, but the *Development of Character*. "It is not what a man *has*, but what he *is*, that makes the man." This is not life here; it is only the preparation for it. The real life is beyond. And the only capital we shall carry into the next world will be the characters we are forming now. That will be a poor success here, if the soul finds itself bankrupt hereafter. God's dictionary is not the same as ours; for what we call success, He often says is failure, and what we sometimes call failure, He writes success. Let every young man start his life with Christ as a partner, determined to do something worth the doing, feeling that the meanest thing in this world is sin, and the manliest thing is to be a Christian gentleman.



Beginning with the present number, the first of the new volume, the BEACON will print, from time to time, in its editorial columns, ar-

ticles prepared for it by different well known successful business men, educators, writers, or philanthropists, embodying the principles which they have found to be essential to success, and deducing from their own experience, advice, which, if it is heeded, can but be of the greatest benefit to our Farm School boys. It is a great pleasure to begin this series with the article, in the present number, on "Planning," written by Hon. Samuel B. Capen. As a successful business man, as a thorough gentleman, and as a sincere Christian, it is acknowledged that no one is better able to speak than Mr. Capen, and what he has written should be valued accordingly.

Visiting Day

Again we welcome the day and our friends, and we trust that all who avail themselves of these pleasant occasions will not only enjoy visiting the boys, but will make an effort to see our people and become acquainted with our methods and aims in making this a home and school where each boy may get the best possible training.

The sincere cooperation of parents and friends with those in control is a great factor in obtaining the best results, especially in impressing upon the minds of these boys the importance of close attention to the principles which shall develop in them a character free from deception, but vigorous in truthfulness, manliness and integrity.

Notes

April 2. Sowed oats and peas.

Light snow storm in the evening.

John Buttrick visited the School.

April 3. Boys who stood first in their classes received presents of books.

Mr. Bradley presented each school-room with a silk American flag.

April 4. Heavy snow storm.

April 5. Meeting of the citizens of Cottage Row. The following officers were elected. Mayor, Albert E. Pratt; aldermen, Elbert L. West, Chauncey Page and John J. Irving; assessor, Lawrence F. Allen; street commissioner, Charles McKay; chief of police, William C. Carr; jury, Selwyn G. Tinkham, William Austin, Charles A. Edwards, Frank W. Harris, Frederick Hill, George Mayott and Frederick F. Blakely. The mayor appointed as clerk, Leo T. Decis; curators, William C. Morgan, Charles Ross and Michael J. Powers; janitor, William Austin. The chief of police appointed as patrolmen, Chester O. Sanborn and Samuel W. Webber.

April 8. Sowed onion seed.

April 10. Easter Sunday. Several of our people attended service in town in the morning. Our special Easter service was at 3 P. M. Frank P. Wilcox and Ove W. Clemmenson were here, and also Robert Blanton who assisted the choir.

April 11. Boys sized up.

John A. Lundgren made us a call.

Mr. Alanzon A. Thresher, the clothing man, from Oak Hall, came to measure the boys for suits.

April 12. Mrs. Harriet J. Bancroft gave to the School the book "Hugh Wynne", in two volumes.

April 13. The first dandelion of the season.

George Bennett, '95, passed the night here.

April 14. Planting potatoes.

School letter writing day.

April 16. Ralph O. Brooks visited the School.

April 17. First radishes from the hot bed.

Mr. John C. Anthony, former assistant superintendent, and his wife, passed Sunday with us.

April 18. William H. Ryan & Co. replacing some of the old piles in the wharf.

April 19. Patriots' Day. Among the graduates who passed the day on the Island

were George Buchan, William D. Hart, John F. Peterson, Herbert and Clifford Pulson, John M. Scott, Edward G. Rodday and Vernie J. Wooley. Game of base ball between the graduates and pupils.

April 21. Mr. Thrasher visiting graduates in New Hampshire.

April 22. Diver made examination of piles under the water, pronouncing them in excellent condition. The boys greatly interested in watching his work.

April 24. Sunday. Miss Ila Niles sang at the afternoon service.

April 25. Two new farm carts presented to the School by Manager Mr. Francis Shaw.

April 30. The new farm carts delivered. Arbor Day. The usual exercises. Managers Mr. Henry S. Grew and Mr. Francis Shaw here.



Repairing Our Cottages

The owners of the Laurel Cottage have been repairing the Cottage for summer. We began by shingling the roof. The first thing we did was to put up a staging to stand on. After we had got this done we tore the old shingles off on one side. Then we began to shingle. Two rows were laid on the bottom. After we had laid the bottom row we used a chalk line so we could get the rows straight. It took three bunches of shingles for the roof. We have fixed the floor, and will paint the cottage soon, and put gravel on the walk.

DANA CURRIER.

About the Trees

All the trees are budding now. The sap comes up through the roots and the trunks, and out through the branches to the end of the twigs. The warm sunshine helps the buds to grow. The buds of the maple, the apple trees, and the horse-chestnut trees are out the farthest. The little maple trees start from the winged seeds that fall from the trees in summer. The seeds stay in the ground all winter, and in the spring start up. The little leaves are hidden under the wings, and after

a time the wings drop off. There are a lot of small maple trees coming up now. The horse-chestnut sends out a large bud that gradually grows larger. When the scales about the bud drop off they leave rings around the twig, and when the leaves drop off they leave scars shaped like horse shoes. When a leaf had five, or seven, or nine parts, and you look at the twig from which this leaf came, you will see as many little dots as there were parts of the leaf. The oak trees start from acorns. These fall to the ground in the fall, and stay there all winter like the maple seeds. They start out in the spring, like beans, and then after a while the shell drops off.

DANIEL W. LAIGHTON.

Naval Prize Money

The rules governing the distribution of prize money, or the money obtained by sale of captured ships or cargoes, are very interesting at this time.

If the vessel is not sold, but is taken by the Government for its own use, her value is ascertained, and this amount figures as prize money.

If the captured vessel is larger than the war-ship which takes it, the government receives no part of the prize money.

If, however, the captured ship is smaller, one half of the prize goes to the Government. Of the other half, one-twentieth goes to the commanding officer of the fleet. The fleet captain receives one-one-hundredth, and the balance is divided among the officers and crew of the victorious ship. Of this balance the commander gets one-tenth, and the remainder is distributed among the officers and crew according to the amount of pay they receive regularly from the Government.

The Oregon and Marietta

The Oregon cost \$3,180,000, and is one of the most powerful battle-ships this country has. She is 348 feet long, and 69 wide, and can steam at the rate of 15 knots an hour. The gunboat Marietta was built in 1896, and cost about \$250,000. She has 6 four-inch rapid-firing guns in her main battery. She can maintain a speed of 12 knots an hour.

Alumni

HERBERT A. PULSON, '96, is with the W. U. Lewisson Company, manufacturers of umbrellas, parasols and walking sticks.

JOHN M. SCOTT, '97, is with the Mason & Hamlin Organ Co., 162 Broadway, Cambridge, Mass.

CLIFFORD M. PULSON, '97, has a position with the Rivet Watch Tool Company of Faneuil.



"When wake the violets, winter dies;
When sprout the elm-buds, spring is near;
When lilacs blossom, summer cries,
'Bud, little roses, spring is here'."

Holmes.

Arbor Day Programme

MUSIC	<i>Band.</i>
YE BOSTON TEA PARTY.	
GREETING	<i>John J. Irving.</i>
ARBOR DAY	
SONG	<i>School.</i>
SONG FOR ARBOR DAY	
EXERCISE	<i>Class.</i>
THE DANDELION	
RECITATION	<i>Clarence W. Barr.</i>
THE OLD TREE	
SONG	<i>School.</i>
IN THE EARLY SPRING-TIME	
EXERCISE	<i>Class.</i>
SPRING-TIME	
SONG	<i>School.</i>
BLOSSOM-TIME	
PLANTING OF THE TREES.	
RECITATION	<i>Frank W. Harris.</i>
PLANT THE TREE	
MUSIC	<i>Band.</i>
TRIUMVIRATE	

The Old Tree

Old tree, how low you seem to stoop,
How much your trunk is bent;
Why don't you make a rise, and grow
Up straight, as you were meant?

And has the old tree found a voice?
And does it speak and sigh?
No! 'twas the soft sweet wind that came
To stir its leaves on high.

But still the young boy thought he heard
The old tree sigh, "Too late!
When I was young, it was the time
To come and bend me straight.

"They should have bound me to a prop,
And made me straight and fast;
A child like you could bend me then,
But now my time is past!

"No use for men to waste their strength,
And pull with ropes at me;
They could not move my stem an inch,
For bent I still must be."

And then the soft wind came once more,
And set the leaves at play,
So that the young boy thought he heard
The old tree sigh and say:

"O child! be wise while you are young,
Nor bend nor stoop to sin!
Drive out the bad thoughts from your heart,
And keep the good ones in!

"Don't think you may be bad in youth,
And one day change your plan;
Just what you grow up from a child,
You will be as a man.

"No use to try, when you are old,
To mend and grow up straight;
For all good men that pass you then
Will sigh and say, 'Too late.'

"Take for your prop, the word of God,
And by its rules be bound;
And let the wise words of your friends
Be stakes to fence you round.

"So straight and strong you shall be found,
A joy and praise to see;
And one day, in the courts of God,
You'll stand, a fair young tree."

—Selected.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Vol. 2. No. 2.

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June 1898.

The Farm

Our name, "The Farm School," while it should not be understood as meaning that the industrial training here is confined to agriculture, does indicate so plainly the branch of work which we look upon as the foundation of our system, that we feel we can very properly claim it to be an appropriate designation.

In the one hundred and sixty-seven acres comprised in the area of our Island there is practically no land which is not available either for tillage or for grazing, and used for one or the other of these purposes. It is the rule that the work of each boy, for the first six months he is here, shall be upon the farm. In many cases the pupil remains longer in this department, or is detailed into it again. This branch of the work is considered to be of value not only for the very practical industrial training which it gives, but also for the physical benefit which the pupils receive from the wholesome exercise in the open air. Visitors to the School frequently comment favorably upon the rugged, healthy appearance of the pupils. There is no doubt that the good health which they enjoy, and the sound constitutions which most Farm School boys possess, are in no small measure due to the healthy out-door work which forms such an important factor in our system.

While farming is taught only as one of the departments of industrial training, and not with any intention of making farmers of the boys, unless they develop a special fitness for that particular calling, the large number of graduates who are now farmers, or doing good work on farms, shows that many have been influenced by their early training here to follow agriculture as a means of earning a living.

Thompson's Island is naturally well adapted for farming. To the north of the main building the ground is a clayey loam, while to the south it is a sandy loam, a combination of soil very favorable to the cultivation of nearly all farm products. A large orchard of apple and pear trees is not only a thing of beauty, especially at this season of the year, but its products form a very desirable addition to our food supply.

A large garden furnishes a regular and sufficient supply of fresh vegetables in their season, and also provides an ample stock to be stored in the root cellar for winter use. In addition to this considerable quantities of rhubarb, tomatoes, onions, beets, parsnips, carrots and similar vegetables are marketed each year. A hot bed furnishes lettuce and radishes early in the spring and shelters tomatoes, cabbages, and such tender plants until the season is sufficiently advanced to allow of their being set out in the open ground. The first rhubarb and asparagus this year was had from the garden early in May. Tomato plants were set out May twenty-seventh and celery was set out May twenty-eighth. The first hoeing of the early potatoes, planted in April, was completed May thirty-first.

Twenty acres of land are under cultivation this year, four acres being planted to potatoes, four to corn, one and one half sowed to onions and two sowed to mangles. The land put into grain, and the large acreage of grass which the Island cuts, will furnish ample feed for the stock kept upon the farm for the entire year. The stock kept this summer comprises twenty-three cows, one yoke of oxen, one bull, one calf, four horses, twenty-eight swine and a large flock of poultry. The boys detailed to the farm depart-

ment also have their regular work in the stable and the barn, and in this way are trained in the care of live stock. C. H. Bradley

Proclamation

Be it known that the Government flag will fly only on Saturdays instead of every day as heretofore.

In the event of Saturday being too windy or a stormy day, the flag will be displayed on the first fair day following and on all legal holidays and patriotic days.

This decision has been made on account of the prices flags are commanding at present, and not on account of any lack of patriotism on the part of Cottage Row citizens or their Government, for the citizens as well as all the rest of the school lift their hats when the main flag goes up and comes down on the mainmast.

May 16, 1898. ALBERT E. PRATT,
Mayor of Cottage Row.

The Flag Boys

Since war began with Spain, our flag has been put up every day. Charles McKay and myself put up the flag every morning at seven o'clock. We have Howard Ellis to play the bugle while the flag is going up and down. We leave the flag up until the sun sets. Then Ralph Gordon and I take it down. We have three large flags. The best one is twenty-four feet long and twelve feet wide. The second best flag is eighteen feet long and ten feet wide. The third flag is an old one which we use on stormy days. We put the best flag up on holidays, Visiting Days, and when some of the Managers come to the Island.

JOSEPH A. CARR.

Work in the Storage Barn

Not long ago Edward Steinbrick told me to clean up the storage barn. First I took the small wood and put it in the room which we use for small wood and shingles. Then I took the large wood out into the lumber yard. I piled the good lumber that we use for fixing things in a neat pile. I hoisted the empty barrels up on the scaffold, and piled them up, and then I swept the floor. JOHN T. LUNDQUIST.

The Yacht Races

The twenty-seventh open regatta of the South Boston Yacht Club was held May 30th, at 2.15 P. M. Through the courtesy of Commodore Arthur Fuller I had the pleasure of being on board the Judges' Boat and thus had a better view of the races. A circular of the races was given to each boy so each one knew the course of each class. There were six classes. Class B was for 31 foot cabin yachts, class D for 25 foot cabin yachts, class L for 21 foot open yachts, class S for 21 foot cabin yachts, class T for 18 foot yachts and class X for 15 foot yachts. The starting and finishing point was an imaginary line between the Judges' Boat and a red buoy anchored off from the Judges' Boat. The Elfreda was the first one of class B to cross the line, followed by the Raynard, Ashumet and Emma C. The Nettie was first in class D, the Little Peter, Eleanor, Thordis, Redskin and Toodles coming after. The Alanka started first in class L and the Tacoma next. The Edith of class S was followed by the Privateer, Harriet, Dafila and Omeme. Of class T the Zoe was first in starting, the Alpine, Duchess, Perhaps, Vamoose, Midget and Circe following. The Katydid, Gnome, Vitesse, Ray and the Glide, of class X started in the order named. The following is the order of the finish. Class B, Ashumet, Elfreda, Emma C and Raynard. Class D, Thordis, Nettie, Eleanor and Little Peter. In class L the Tacoma was first and the Alanka next. Class S, Privateer, Dafila, Harriet, Omeme and Edith. Class X, Vitesse, Katydid, Ray, Glide and Gnome. The following yachts withdrew: Red Skin and Toodles of class D, and Midget, Perhaps and Alpine of class T.

MERTON P. ELLIS.

They Heard Our Band

In a recent article in the Boston Journal, written from one of the neighboring islands is this reference to our Band.

"A pleasant feature of the guard quarters was the pleasing strains of the national hymns, played by the Farm School Band at Thompson's Island, which were wafted over by the breeze."

Sousa's Band

During Sousa's last series of concerts held here in Boston, at Mechanics Building, Edward Steinbrick and myself had the pleasure of attending one in the evening. We enjoyed it very much. There were fifty-two members present in this band. We were joined by two of our graduates and this added to our pleasure. We had a fine position in the second balcony over the left side of the stage where we had a good view. We also could see behind the stage, the scenes there sometimes being very amusing. The first part of the concert was all music, including a flueglehorn solo. This is very much like a cornet. The second part was Sousa's grand international spectacle, "The Trooping of the Colors." This was one of the most patriotic spectacles I ever witnessed. There were representatives of troops, from England, Germany, France, Scotland and the Cuban Insurgents, the latter of whom received the most applause. There were also United States Infantry and Sailors, all looking gay and gorgeous in their uniforms. The national air of each country was played as their troops came in. In the rear of the stage were a good many singers. In closing, the people all arose and sang the "Star Spangled Banner."

HOWARD B. ELLIS.

Planting Potatoes

Recently we have been planting late potatoes. First, furrows were made with the plow. Then two boys went along and dropped phosphate in the furrows. The boys that dropped phosphate dropped it by handfuls. These handfuls were dropped about fifteen or eighteen inches apart. The boys that planted went along with baskets or pails full of potatoes cut in pieces, and dropped a piece beside the phosphate. Then we took a plow and went between the furrows and covered up the potatoes.

CHARLES W. JORGENSEN.

My Bantam Hen

I have a bantam hen that we were going to put some pheasant's eggs under and while we were waiting for the eggs I had four China eggs under her. After sitting on the China eggs two

weeks, we found that the pheasants do not lay until the middle of June, so I put fourteen bantam eggs under her and she hatched seven of them. Then we put her out doors with the little brood and put the rest of the eggs under another hen. The next day another little bantam came out and then we had eight. They have been out doors since then, until today I put them in the hen house because it rained. The bantam hen is very kind to her little ones. When I feed them she picks the food over for them before she eats any herself. She is careful not to step on them.

C. HENRY B. BRADLEY.

An Afternoon Walk

One day when I had finished my work in the afternoon, Mr. Thrasher asked me if I would like to walk around with him and see about some things. I said I would like to go. First we went down to the wharf to see if a boat that had been over and back was all right. We found that it was all right. Then we went down to the storage barn to see if the turkey that was sitting there had begun to hatch. We went to the hen house to see about the hens and the pigeons. We found some pigeon eggs broken. One of the boys who was working in the orchard near by told us that some turkey eggs had been found under one of the apple trees. We went there and saw the eggs in one nest but the eggs in the other nest we did not see because the turkey was on the nest.

WILLIAM M. ROBERTS.

Fort Independence

On Castle Island, a little to the north of our Island, stands Fort Independence. This was once one of the strongest fortifications of Boston, but we should not see much of a fort left there now if a modern war ship were to play on its walls for a short time. Fort Independence is now being used for storage purposes by the Government and as a place in which to make torpedoes and submarine mines to be used in the harbor. In the summer it has been used as a park, but while this work is being done, people are not allowed to go there

SAMUEL F. BUTLER.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

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A Boy's Opportunity

By Dr. Samuel Eliot.

Many a boy thinks of doing nothing in the way of duty unless forced to do it. He has no sense of duty for its sake or for his own. Many boys doubt their ability, and though they would like to be good and brave and helpful, they don't see their opportunity. They are but boys, and what can boys do worth doing? Yet they are at the very age when opportunities

abound, and when their use of them may avail as much as, if not more than, at any other time; for what they are doing now tells most upon the future, indeed goes very far towards shaping all the life that is to follow. They are, we may say it reverently, making a life.

What does the boy need most? There can be but one answer. It is not learning, splendid as that is, or the power acquired through industrial training, fine as that is; certainly not the faculty of making money or taking a lead in politics, though these are to be honorably sought and used. These things and others are fair objects of desire, but not the fairest. The fairest of all is Character, which means an upright purpose, a clear and noble way of following it, a sense of deep consideration for others, a steadfast use of all true and pure resources at one's command, and a consecration of all we do, or say, or think, to the service of God.

Plutarch, as we may remember, was a Greek who wrote many volumes in the first century of our era. His lives of famous Greeks and Romans have interested multitudes of boys in many generations. One of his stories is that a victor in an old athletic game was asked what good the wreath he had won could be to him. He answered that it entitled him to fight near the king. He thought that to stand in the front rank when any struggle for his king or country might go on, was one of the greatest prizes which any man could gain. The same prize is within the reach of every earnest, high-minded boy who would fit himself for the service of his country, or for any great cause upon which his country depends. He can begin in boyhood, and if he begins then, he will find it only natural to keep on in manhood, and so to bear himself from early to later years as to

prove that he did not waste the opportunity which came to him when he was but a boy.

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In sending the article which he so kindly contributes to this number of the BEACON, Dr. Eliot writes; "It is a pleasure even to try to help your good work."

Mrs. William A. Morse, who was for many years connected with the Farm School, died on May first of this year at the home of her son, Mr. William A. Morse, at Melrose Highlands. Mrs. Morse was seventy years of age. She was born August twenty-seventh, 1827, at Canton, in Oxford county, Maine. She was married to Mr. Morse in December, 1853, at Dublin, New Hampshire. Mr. Morse had been here as farmer since 1850. After their marriage they came here, and the Farm House was built for them to live in. In 1856 they became respectively Superintendent and Matron, remaining here in that capacity until March fifteenth, 1888. Mr. William A. Morse, now in the employ of Mr. Alfred Bowditch, is their only child.

The funeral of Mrs. Morse was held May third. Among the large number who were present, the Farm School was represented by the Treasurer, Mr. Alfred Bowditch, and graduates Harry Beedem, W. B. Foster, Edward Colson, James Graham, John Henry, Preston W. Lewis, William Morrison and Fred W. Pierson. No better evidence of the noble work Mrs. Morse accomplished could be desired than was shown by this mark of respect and by the sincere expressions of regard for the deceased which have come from many who were not able to attend the funeral.

Have plenty of "backbone," but keep it straight.

Notes

May 1. Sunday. Rev. James Huxtable addressed the boys and assisted Mr. Fisher in the afternoon services.

May 2. Painting the main flag staff.

Arthur Wellesley went to work for Mr. J. E. Kilburn, of Barre, Mass.

May 5. William G. Cummings went to work for A. M. Stone and Co., 82 Faneuil Hall Market.

Mr. G. E. Dickie from the firm of J. A. and W. Bird and Co., giving the boys instruction in waxing the floors.

May 7. First Visiting Day. Manager Mr. Henry S. Grew present and one hundred and seventy-three other visitors.

May 8. Sunday. Heavy north-east wind, water very rough.

May 9. Each boy presented with a patriotic badge.

May 10. Frederick Blakely went to live with his mother.

One lot of books presented to the School by Mr. John Wilson of Cambridge.

May 14. Manager Mr. J. D. W. French with Mr. E. Pierson Beebe passed the afternoon here.

Received very interesting letter from graduate Charles A. Henry, '93, on board the United States Flag Ship, "Brooklyn," of the Flying Squadron.

May 15. Sunday. First asparagus.

May 16. Ervin L. Oaks, '95, paid us a visit.

Edward Steinbrick and Howard B. Ellis, leaders respectively of the first and second bands, went over to the city to hear Sousa's Band.

May 18. Steamer Pilgrim in dock for spring overhauling.

Thomas J. Fairbairn went to live with Mr. William P. Peabody of Alton, N. H.

May 20. Semi-annual testing of cattle showed absolute freedom of any suspicion of tuberculosis.

THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

May 21. Book "Days Out of Doors" given by Dr. E. Jeannette Gooding; "American Men of Letters" given by Mrs. L. S. Emery of Boston.

May 24. Mr. John Wilson presented the school with the second lot of books.

Blacksmith shoeing all the horses.

May 28. Manager Mr. Francis Shaw here.

May 29. Sunday. Mr. Leavitt, who was with us last year as Sunday Assistant, addressed the boys in the afternoon.

May 30. Decoration Day. The band furnished music for Thos. G. Stevenson Post No. 26 of Roxbury. The remainder of the boys watched the yacht races and played King Philip in the afternoon.

May 31. Supt. Joseph F. Scott of the Massachusetts Reformatory and Mr. Amos W. Butler, Secretary of the Indiana State Board of Charities, passed the day with us.



Hon. Thomas Hills, President of the South Boston Savings Bank, in renewing his subscription to the BEACON, writes; "I am much pleased with the bright little paper."



WILLIAM T. DANIELS, '71, died May 18th, at his home in Worcester, Mass. A Worcester paper speaking of his death says; "The funeral of Mr. W. T. Daniels was from his home, 3 Houchin Avenue, yesterday afternoon, at 2 o'clock. The service was by Rev. Dr. George W. King. Many floral tributes testified to the respect and esteem felt for the deceased. The interment was in Hope cemetery."

Mr. Daniels has been a frequent visitor to the Island, and his visits will always be pleasantly remembered. He was a respected and esteemed citizen of Worcester and successful in his business as a painter.

"Honesty is the best policy," but the man who is honest because it is "policy" isn't the most desirable sort of a citizen

The Cannon Ball

The boys have a sixteen pound cannon ball to throw in their play time. It is kept under the seat around the big elm near the main building. They throw the ball left, right, over their heads, under their legs, from the front and from their backs. Two boys sometimes throw it together, on their toes. They stand side by side and put the cannon ball so that half of it is on the left foot of one boy and the other half on the right foot of the other boy. Then they kick together. They also throw in a similar way on their hands. We had a twenty-two pounder before, but we got this one because this weight is used more where they throw a cannon ball. We throw it before breakfast, and at other times.

CARL ALFRED HJALMAR MALM.

Sending Postal Cards

About a week before Visiting Day we stopped down in the evening to send postal cards to our relatives and friends, to tell them when Visiting Day would be. Two tables were placed in the school room, with pens and ink on them. First the row of boys nearest the clock went up to the tables, by which sat Miss Camp, Miss Winslow, Miss Brewster and Mrs. Bradley to address the cards. They had a pile of postal cards on each table and as soon as a boy came up, if he knew the person's address, he told the name and the number of street, and then the city and state. All the boys that wanted to, could send a card, and some sent three.

ALBERT H. LADD.

Painting the Fences

The shop boys and painters have been painting fences. One boy works on the outside and one on the inside of the fence. Each fence has to have two coats. We are now doing the fence which leads from the wharf towards the north end of the Island. Three boys work painting in the morning and two in the afternoon. The kind of paint we use is called "cold water paint." At one o'clock we mix two pailsful, and this lasts us all the afternoon. Last year the fences were whitewashed.

DANA CURRIER

Gladstone

William Ewart Gladstone was born December 29, 1809. He received his education at Eton, and Christ Church Oxford, where he graduated in 1831. At the age of twenty-two he traveled on the continent, spending some time in Italy. He was advised to enter politics by the Duke of Newcastle, and having done so, during his whole after life stood by what he thought was right and reformed what he thought was wrong. All measures of advanced reform were opposed by him in his early political career. One of his first measures was to advocate the independence of Italy. In 1858 he accepted a special mission to the Ionian Isles, and at that time published a work on Homer. The commercial treaty with France was largely due to him. He became leader of the Liberal Party in 1865. From 1869 to 1893 he worked for Home Rule for Ireland. His bill was passed by the Commons but rejected by the House of Lords. While in Parliament he held the following positions; Junior Lord of the Treasury, Under Secretary, Secretary of State for Colonies, Vice-President and President of the Board of Trades, Master of the Mint, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Prime Minister.

As a writer Gladstone had few equals. After retiring from public life, in 1894 and 1895 he published "Gleanings of past Years" and "Studies on Homer and the Homeric Age." This last work in itself would have required a life time of study for an ordinary man.

Gladstone married Catherine Glynn, daughter of Sir Richard Glynn, of Hawarden Castle, in 1839. He was entombed, May twenty-eighth, in Westminster Abbey. His grave is beside that of his life-long adversary Disraeli.

The esteem in which Gladstone is held in America was shown by the innumerable tributes of respect here at the time of his death. Flags were very generally displayed at half-mast, and memorial services were held in many of the cities and towns. No one but a great man, and a good man, would have been so universally honored.

The Stereopticon Lecture

Not long ago Mr. Bradley gave the boys a stereopticon entertainment in the first school room. The pictures were mostly of Spanish and Cuban places, buildings and people. We were told by Mr Bradley and some of the officers, about each one of the pictures. First came the bull fights which occur almost every Sunday in Madrid and Havana. Then there were Spanish troops around forts, and Cuban troops on guard around their forts. Havana harbor was shown, the Maine explosion, the cities of Gibraltar, Barcelona and Cadiz, the national buildings of Spain, different parts of the Alhambra, street scenes in Spain, such as milking a cow in the streets, types of Spanish soldiers, famous Americans connected with the war, such as Consul General Lee and Admiral Sicard, and then last of all, President William McKinley.

WILLIAM W. DAVIS.

The Enterprise

The Enterprise is a Government training ship, and all of the boys that go on her have to pay. She is usually anchored near the Navy Yard, but for some time recently she was anchored near our Island because the Navy Yard was crowded by other Government vessels. The boys who are on her, when they are on shore-leave, wear blue uniforms with regulation caps. When they are on board they wear similar uniforms or suits made of white duck. One of the sailors said that the State appropriated \$50,000 for her use each year. Among her numerous boats she has a small steam launch and a sail-boat. John Cooper, who is one of our graduates, was on board the Enterprise for nearly a year, about four years ago, but he was withdrawn because he could do better.

FREDERICK HILL.

June

The robin and the bluebird, piping loud,
Filled all the blossoming orchard with
their glee;

The sparrows chirped as if they still
were proud

Their race in Holy Writ should men-
tioned be. *Longfellow.*

Alumni

HAROLD E. BRENTON, '90, is to play this summer as solo cornet with the leading band at Nantasket. Mr. Brenton, who is one of the most successful cornetists in Boston, began playing that instrument in the Farm School Band. He applied himself industriously to learning to play, and practiced a great deal to Mrs. Bradley's accompaniment on the piano. He has been very successful in his profession. Among other engagements he has played with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, both in Boston and at the Worcester Musical Festival, has been solo cornet with the Naval Brigade Band, and traveled last season with Fanny Davenport's company. He has been leading cornet at the Park Theater, and also at the Boston Theater, where he played during the recent season of Grand Opera in English, and where he will remain until the season opens at Nantasket.

My Boy

Have I heard of the Maine? Why, bless you,
sir,

My boy is aboard of her,
And he's on his way to Cuba, now,

Where they're making such a stir.
Have I heard of the Maine? Why, I went on
board,

Before she was sent to sea,
And the noble captain of that ship,
He took off his hat to me.

You see, my boy was tired of the farm,
And weary of staying at home,
And he always had a tendency
To wander about and roam.

So I said to him, in a careless way,
When he got so restless here,
"You'd better enlist on a man-o'-war,
I'll worry along, my dear."

So off he went, and he did so well,
And he lived so straight and true,
They made him a sergeant, right off-hand,
And raised his wages, too.
I was so proud, when I went on board
That mighty mass of steel,

And heard him ordering men about,—
Land sakes! how I did feel!

And every week, when they're nigh to shore
I know I can drive to town,
And get his letter and bring it home
To read when the sun goes down.
I've got them here, a hundred and ten,—
I keep this drawer for him,
And the Bible he bought, with good, large print,
For my eyes are getting dim.

But I'm sure, I ask your pardon, sir;
You really must excuse
A fond old mother for talking so,
When, maybe, you've got some news.

* * * *

Sad news? Why, Jim ain't sick or hurt?
Speak, man! What's happened to him?
He's all I've got,—he's my only boy,—
Has anything happened to Jim?

Among the missing? Oh! my poor heart!
That means that all hope is fled!
My Jim would have let his mother know,—
My Jim is among the dead.
And I let him go, with a smiling face,
And cried when his back was turned,
For he wouldn't have left me here alone,
If he knew how my heartstrings yearned.

Here's a message now, by telegraph,—
Just wait for a moment, please.
O, give me my boy, dear Lord in heaven,
I beg on my bended knees.
Now read! "Dear mother, I'm badly hurt.
But I'm coming home to stay;
There's enough of me left to love you, dear,
But pray for me, mother, pray!"

Thank God! I shall see his face again!
I can bear my burden now.
If he's maimed and crippled, why, 'tis heaven's
will,—

I can only meekly bow.
God help those mothers of noble sons
To whom no message comes
But the distant tread of solemn feet
And the roll of muffled drums.

From Success.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

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Our Sloyd

A Graduation Essay.

There are a great many people who do not know the meaning of the word sloyd. And sometimes the teachers themselves are not sure of its meaning. The word sloyd was derived from an old adjective, "slog," which means skillful. It was spelled in Sweden slojd and was used as far back as the fourteenth century.

The aim of sloyd is not a special technical training, but a general development, laying the foundation for future industrial growth.

In our sloyd department we have one sloyd class in the morning and two in the afternoon, each class working one and one-fourth hours. The morning class goes to sloyd five days of the week and the two afternoon classes each two days. In our sloyd room there are two rows of benches, eight in each row. The benches are fitted with a saw, jack plane, knife, bench-hook, rule, marking-gauge, pair of compasses, try-square, T square, triangle and brush. These tools are known as individual tools. A large variety of tools is kept in the tool case, making in all sixty-two. We have thirty-four different models in our course, giving us seventy-eight progressive exercises, in nine kinds of wood. Commencing with the wedge the models gradually grow more difficult until at last the tool chest is reached.

Before we make a model we make a working drawing of it. Having the model before us to draw from we draw lines or put in views enough to show all the dimensions clearly. For drawing we have a drawing board, T square, triangle, compass attachment, hard pencil and eraser. After we finish the drawing, we

put the paper on our instructor's desk for him to look over and mark. Our best effort is required in both drawing and wood-work.

Before commencing our work we remove our jackets and take our places by our benches, while the monitors pass out the aprons, pencils, erasers, compass attachments and working rule cards. After the last bell strikes we take up our regular work. The boys do not keep together in the sloyd, so that generally each boy is at work upon a different model. When the time is up the monitors collect the things that they pass out at the beginning of the lesson, we put our drawing or model away into the case for unfinished work, replace our jackets, and march out.

In making our models we use about eighteen feet of pine, two feet of whitewood, nine inches of spruce, one foot of maple, one foot of oak, one foot of white ash, six feet of cherry, thirty-six inches of hickory, and thirty inches of sycamore. We have the following list of hardware kept in marked boxes: locks, handles, hinges, hooks, screws, nails and sandpaper. Most of our models are rubbed down in linseed oil and several coats of white shellac. Filler is used upon woods of open grain, such as oak and ash. When our models are finished, we place them on our instructor's desk, to be examined and marked. After that they are put away into the finished model cases to be used about our home, or sold. When a boy has finished his sloyd and goes away from the School, he is given his tool-chest if his work has been satisfactory. Five of our models are turned out upon the lathe which stands in one corner of the shop. One boy can run it but two work to much better advantage, one running the lathe

and the other turning out the work.

Before closing I would like to call your attention to the great variety of work that is represented in our sloyd course, and to do this I will group some of the models. In the first place we have in common with all sloyd courses some knife work, represented by the wedge, planting pin and pen holder. Another group can be made up from the form models, the hatchet handle, cake spoon and scoop. The carpenter's work is represented by the sign board, picture frame, knife tray, and the tool-chest; the lathe by the cylinder, file handle, mallet and the dumb-bell. In chip carving we have the key board, paper knife, pen tray and book rack, and in finishing we have filler, oil and shellac.

We acquire skill in the handling of tools, from our sloyd, so that we can repair our cottages or make things for ourselves, instead of having to have the work done, which at present we could not do. As I finish my description of our sloyd I hope that the work will still continue to progress in the future, and be as great a benefit to those who take up the study as it has been to us.

RICHARD N. MAXWELL.

Our New Silk Flags

One Sunday morning not long ago Mr. Bradley brought a new flag into our school room, the second. The boys liked to see the American Flag for the school room and they thanked Mr. Bradley for it. They saluted the flag with a royal will. The flag is made of bright silk, and droops prettily. The stars look very pretty on the blue field. The flag is four feet long and two and one half feet wide. The staff is six feet high, the stand a Maltese cross. On the cross are the words "Stand by the Flag." The flag is kept in the school room all the time. The teacher chooses a boy whom we call the "color bearer" to put the flag on her desk and to put it back in its place. Its place is on a stand in the corner of the room. In the afternoon the "color bearer" puts it on the desk of the boy who has done the best the week before. Each school room has a flag. Mr. Bradley said to the boys to see which school room could keep its flag the best and the longest time.

EDWARD L. DAVIS.

Visit to Tremont Temple

Sunday, June 12. Mr. Thrasher, Mr. Fisher and about thirty boys went to church in the city. We left the Island about quarter after nine, in our steamer Pilgrim. After we reached South Boston we took a car and rode up to the Common. When we got to the Common the party divided. Mr. Fisher and his party, of which I was one, went to Tremont Temple. We reached there early and got good seats. Rev. Dr. Pentecost, of Yonkers, N. Y., preached the sermon. The text was, "Christ a mystery, not a myth." After we got out of church we went back to the Common, and in front of the Shaw Monument we met Mr. Thrasher and his boys. Then we all went down through the Public Gardens, where we saw the flowers. The lilies were especially beautiful. From there we took a car and rode to the Park, in South Boston, where we took our steamer and came home.

RALPH L. GORDON.

Cocoons

Last fall one of the second school room boys brought in to our teacher a cocoon. As days went by, we would watch for the butterfly to come out of its cosy little house. But we had to wait all winter long and the spring came but not the butterfly. He was not ready for he was still growing and growing till he was his full size, or was grown all he was going to. And then his cozy little house was broken open by him and he came out a handsome, large American silk worm moth. When Charlie Jorgensen came into the school room to do his work, he found the moth on the window sill which was about ten feet from the desk where his little house was. He was put into a box with some holes to breathe through and a cloth to lie on and eat if he wanted to, but they do not need anything till they grow strong, for they are weak when they first come from the house.

CLARENCE W. BARR.

A small boy had learned as a text to repeat in Sunday School,—"It is I. Be not afraid." When he stood up to speak, however, he forgot it, but after a moment's reflection exclaimed,—"It's me. Don't get scared."

Graduation Day Exercises

OVERTURE	<i>Band.</i>
SALUTATORY	<i>Herbert A. Hart.</i>
ESSAY, SUCCESS	
GREETING SONG	<i>Class.</i>
ESSAY	<i>Selwyn G. Tinkham.</i>
THE CATACOMBS	
RECITATION	<i>George Mason.</i>
THE SHIP BUILDERS	
ESSAY	<i>Richard N. Maxwell.</i>
SLOYD	
CORNET SOLO	<i>Howard B. Ellis.</i>
UNDER THE ROSES	
ESSAY	<i>John J. Irving.</i>
CUBA	
RECITATION	<i>Leo T. Decis.</i>
NATHAN HALE	
ESSAY	<i>Benjamin F. Gerry.</i>
THOREAU	
QUARTET	
WHEN THE LITTLE ONES SAY GOOD NIGHT	
ESSAY	<i>Howard B. Ellis.</i>
THE PRINTING OFFICE	
DECLAMATION	<i>Lawrence F. Allen.</i>
THE MEN TO MAKE A STATE	
VALEDICTORY	<i>Walter Lanagan.</i>
ESSAY, FOUR AUTHORS	
ADDRESS	MR. M. ANAGNOS.
PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS	
MARCH	<i>Band.</i>

Mrs. Wolcott's Visit

On Tuesday afternoon, June 14th, we had the pleasure of entertaining several prominent ladies and gentlemen who visited our Island. Among those who were here was Mrs. Wolcott, the wife of the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. With the company were three of our Board of Managers, Mr. William P. Fowler, Mr. Henry S. Grew and Mr. Francis Shaw. Several of those present addressed the boys, among them Mrs. Wolcott, and we all felt it a great honor and pleasure to have this opportunity to hear her. After the speaking was finished we gave three cheers and a tiger

for Governor Wolcott, and Mrs. Wolcott thanked us in his name. The boys were seated in the first school room to listen to the speaking. The band played a few pieces, and Howard Ellis and Richard Maxwell recited essays. After the speaking was over the band played a march for the boys to file out. Then we played ball for an hour, while the visitors were being shown about the Island.

HERBERT A. HART.

Galapagos Tortoise

Recently, during vacation, I was one of a party of boys who went out to Hazelwood to see the Galapagos tortoise that are there now, at the Museum of Mr. Frank Blake Webster. Some people call them turtles

On our way we went through the Subway on an electric car, and found the ride very interesting. After that we went through the Public Gardens, and saw many kinds of flowers and the swan boats on the lake. From there we went to the Providence depot and took a train for Hazelwood, where we got off and went to the Museum. We saw stuffed birds of very many kinds, among them the ostrich, eagle, owl, heron, crane and many others. Among the animals were the bison, fox, dog and monkey, and a crocodile.

We went principally, though, to see the tortoise, as it is not likely that anywhere else in the world are there so many of this kind together. There are sixty of them, and they belong to Mr. Rothschild of London, who sent a ship to the Pacific Ocean to get them. Mr. Rothschild employed Mr. Webster to take charge of getting the tortoise. They are to be taken to London. The largest weighs about two hundred pounds and the smallest about two pounds. I lifted several of them. It has cost \$12,000 to get them so far on their way. They were brought in a sailing vessel to San Francisco, and from there they came by train across the continent. One which died on the way has been stuffed and is now at the Museum. The boys liked the trip to Hazelwood very much.

JOHN J. IRVING.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.
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Influence

A few suggestions to boys and young men on the
power of influence.

By Hon. Richard C. Humphreys.

What is influence? It is a moral power that works invisibly and can be seen only in its effects, but its workings are none the less sure because invisible. Let us ask ourselves a few simple yet very important questions. Is my influence exerted on the side of temperance?

Does my influence always stand for strictly honest dealings with my associates? Am I exerting such an influence on those with whom I am brought in contact as will help raise their standard of morality? Do I set a good example in my conversation; that is, do I always use language that is refining and uplifting? Are my habits such as I would like to have followed by my brothers and sisters? Is the world the better for my living in it? These are practical questions which it would be well for us to ask ourselves often and seriously, and in the quiet hours of meditation listen to the still small voice of conscience for an answer. We are very apt to lose sight of our errors of omission and feel entirely satisfied if we are not guilty of those of commission. That is, if we can only keep from having a bad influence we think it is enough, and do not feel the importance of doing something that will make those around us better.

Let us try not only to be good but good for something. Remember those words of Jesus,- "Ye are the light of the world." In these few words he seemed to try to impress upon the minds of his followers the importance of their influence in the world. Let us think of them as having been spoken to us, just as truly as to the disciples who heard them when they were spoken on that beautiful hillside. We are very apt to lose sight of the importance of our influence on the world. We do not realize how much an example is doing to raise or lower the standard of morality among our associates. For instance one of our companions is morally weak; he falls easily into temptation, he lacks strength of character. Just think for a moment that this person is just as easily influenced in the right direction as in the wrong. Think how much you can strengthen him, by a kind word at the right moment, by manifest-

ing a true firmness in resisting temptation, in short by showing him a strong moral character.

Some one may ask, how can I attain to this moral character that will make my influence helpful. In no way can we better attain to the position of a true beacon light, than by becoming so familiar with the life and character of Jesus that our light will so shine before our associates that they will see that we have partaken of his spirit, that we are making the beautiful traits of character which we so much admire in his life, the ruling and guiding power of our lives. As you know, the moon shines with a borrowed light from the sun, which it reflects and then illuminates the darkness of the night to guide us in our way. Let us allow the light of truth, purity and love, as shown in the life of Jesus, to shine into our hearts and be reflected into the lives of those with whom we are brought in contact, and we shall be exerting an influence that will make the world the better for our living in it. Boys, yes, and young men are very apt to think that they have but little influence and it makes no difference what they say or do, but I know that one bad boy in a school like "Thompson's Island" can contaminate the whole Institution, and one good boy can by his speech and acts elevate the whole tone of the Farm School.

Be thoughtful, conscientious and sincere, keeping these two questions prominently in mind. Am I exerting such an influence on my associates as will lead them to live a better life? Is my influence upon those who are younger and less experienced than myself, such as will elevate and improve their moral character? Ever bear in mind that however limited your opportunities and however narrow the circle in which you move, you are every day of your lives exerting an influence for good or evil over every human being with whom you are

brought in contact. Also bear in mind the influence of good reading to strengthen your character and elevate your thoughts, and the contaminating influence of books with a low moral standard. Take for instance the life of some great and good man. By carefully reading such a life you will unconsciously partake of its spirit. Think of the pleasure as well as the moral gain of becoming acquainted with the best men who have lived in the world, who have passed safely through the trials and temptations of life, and have left an example the influence of which you can have to strengthen and make you better able to meet the disappointments of life and overcome the evil that is in the world.

Notes

June 2. Dr. Taylor making his annual dental inspection.

June 4. Second Visiting Day. A very rough, stormy day. Number present, eighty-two, including Mr. I. Tucker Burr and Mr. Henry S. Grew of the Board of Managers.

June 5. Sunday. The band contributed musical numbers for the afternoon service, and Miss Ila M. Niles sang at the chapel service in evening.

June 6. Annual invoice of coal arrived.

June 8. Finished unloading coal.

June 10. Graduation exercises. Mr. M. Anagnos addressed the class. Among those present were the Secretary of the Board of Managers, Mr. Tucker Daland; Dr. Frank E. Allard, former principal of the school; Hon. Richard C. Humphreys; Rev. James Huxtable, and nine of the class of 1897.

June 11. Delegation of ten boys, with Miss Wright, attended a Loyal Temperance Legion convention in Dorchester.

June 12. Sunday. A squad of thirty boys attended church in town, part going with Mr. Thrasher to St. Paul's Church and a part with Mr. Fisher to Tremont Temple.

THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

June 14. A party of twelve, including Mrs. Wolcott, the wife of the Governor of the Commonwealth; Hon. Richard C. Humphreys and wife; Mr. Benjamin Pettee and three of the Board of Managers, Mr. Wm P. Fowler, Mr. Henry S. Grew and Mr. Francis Shaw passed a part of the day at the Island.

June 15. Through the kindness of Mr. Grew the entire school is to visit Hazelwood to see the Galapagos tortoise there. The first detachment went to-day, with Mr. Thrasher.

June 16. A second detachment of boys, with Mr. Berry, went to Hazelwood.

June 17. Holiday. First strawberries.

June 18. A third detachment of boys, with Mr. Thrasher, went to Hazelwood.

June 21. Several boys went for a visit to their friends.

New telephone house erected on the wharf.

June 22. A fourth detachment of boys, with Mr. Thrasher, went to Hazelwood.

June 25. Fifth detachment of boys, with Mr. Fisher, went to Hazelwood.

Promotions

From the second class to the first class.

William Austin	Ernest Curley
Ernest W. Austin	William Davis
Thomas Brown	Frank W. Harris
Samuel F. Butler	Henry F. McKenzie
William C. Carr	Chauncey Page

From the third class to the second class.

Herbert E. Balentine	Alfred Lanagan
John F. Barr	John T. Lundquist
Charles B. Bartlett	Carl Alfred H. Malm
John J. Conklin	Albert Pratt
Dana Currier	Samuel W. Webber

From the fourth class to the third class.

Walter L. Carpenter	Charles McKay
Joseph A. Carr	Charles W. Russell
Edward C. Crowell	Chester O. Sanborn
Charles W. Jorgensen	George Thomas
Albert H. Ladd	Thomas Tierney
George Mayott	

From the fourth class (Second School) to the Third class.

Clarence W. Barr	Daniel Murray
Frederick F. Burchsted	Axel E. Renquist
George F. Burke	Charles Ross
Henry W. Chickering	Frank C. Simpson
George E. Hart	Arthur D. Thomas
Charles Hill	Frederick Thompson

From the fifth class to the fourth class.

Edward L. Davis	Michael J. Powers
Daniel W. Loughton	Newton C. Rowell
Harry H. Leonard	Charles Spear
Robert McKay	Frederick L. Walker
William Mourey	Clarence W. Wood

From the sixth class to the fifth class.

Walter L. Butler	Phillippe J. Parent
Andrew W. Dean	John J. Powers
James A. Edson	Willard H. Rowell
William Flynn	Samuel A. Waycott
Barney Hill	Carl L. Wittig
Elmer A. Johnson	

From the seventh class to the sixth class.

Ernest N. Jorgensen	Frank A. Roberts.
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Graduation

On the afternoon of Friday, June tenth, were held the graduation exercises of the Class of '98. The members of the Class had sent invitations to their relatives and friends, and a large number of these, and of friends of the School, were present. Our Board of Managers was represented by the Secretary, Mr. Tucker Daland. Among others here were Mrs. Daland, Mrs. James H. Elliot, Mrs. E. P. Upham, Rev. James Huxtable, Hon. Richard C. Humphreys, and Dr. Frank E. Allard, former principal of the school. Mr. M. Anagnos, the Director of the Institution for the Blind, at South Boston, addressed the Class. His remarks were very interesting and instructive, and all who heard him must have been impressed by his earnestness. After Mr. Anagnos had spoken Mr. Bradley spoke to the Class and presented the diplomas. There were ten in the class. Much of the graduates' work was on exhibition in the school room, and also some of their sloyd work in the sloyd room. The graduates were given permission to present their relatives with a sloyd model of their own make.

HOWARD B. ELLIS

The New Band

When a boy wants to practice on an instrument he asks Howard Ellis, who has charge of the new band, for permission to do so. We go out every Thursday night after chapel and play lessons together, for some of the boys cannot play pieces. We also practice any time we want to in our play time. There are two tubas, two tenors, three trombones, five B flat cornets, three E flat cornets, two piccolos, two clarinets, three altos, one B flat bass, one baritone, one bass drum and two tenor drums. When there is a vacant place in the old band a boy in the new band is taken and put in the vacant place.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.

The L. T. L. Convention

On Saturday, June eleventh, some delegates from our Loyal Temperance Legion, Company X, attended a convention in Field's Corner, Dorchester. A few days before the convention the Legion chose as delegates ten boys, beside our president, Miss Wright. At eight o'clock Saturday morning we started in the steamer for City Point. We walked from there to the corner of L and Fourth streets, where we meet several other companies. We waited about half an hour for the two special cars which were to take us there, and when we all got into them they were pretty well filled. We had a good time while riding in the cars. When we went by a beer shop the girls would begin singing a song which must have made the bar-tenders feel pretty mean; the last two lines were, "Saloons, saloons, saloons must go." Then they would wave their temperance banners.

When we reached Parkman Street we got off and lined up two and two, and marched down to the church which is on the same street. In the forenoon the secretary of each company gave a report of the work, and some of the children spoke pieces and sang. There was one duet sung by two girls which we liked very much; the title was, "Where is my Father Tonight."

At twelve o'clock we went to dinner on the lawn, and after that there was a street parade of

about half an hour. Then we returned to the church and each company gave their rally cry. Some ladies spoke on temperance, among them our National Secretary, Mrs. Helen G. Rice; the state President, Mrs. S. H. Fessenden and Mrs. M. McGinnis, the organizer of our company. We started for home about five o'clock, and reached our island at six. We all enjoyed the trip very much.

CHAUNCEY PAGE.

Modern Ordnance

The average velocity with which the projectiles leave the muzzles of modern American naval guns is about 2100 feet per second, when full service charges are used. This is equivalent to the enormous speed of nearly twenty-four statute miles per minute, and is not materially diminished at the ordinary fighting range of two miles or less.

"Cannon-balls" are now obsolete, all modern projectiles being long and pointed. Solid shot is rarely used, the common forms being shell and shrapnel. A shell has a bursting charge of powder inside of it, and so has a shrapnel, but the latter also has in it a number of small shot, which scatter when it is exploded. Both are exploded by fuses, either on impact or at the expiration of a fixed time, according as a percussion or a time fuse is used. Armor piercing shells, however, have no fuses, being exploded by the heat generated in passing through armor.

Guns are fired by means of primers, either percussion or electric. The recoil is taken up by means of hydraulic cylinders, in which a piston, moving with the gun, is checked by a liquid cushion.

The powder used in the larger guns is really not powder at all, but a collection of hexagonal prisms, about an inch in diameter, and brown in color. Smokeless powder comes in sticks resembling mouth-glue, or some kinds of taffy. The old-fashioned black powder is now used only for saluting purposes, or as bursting charges for shells, although some of the many higher explosives are now often used in the latter, in which cases the destructive power is greatly enhanced.

THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

Alumni

HORACE I. STICKNEY, '89, is among the soldiers serving in the present war. He is a musician in Company D. of Lynn, which, with the rest of the Eighth Massachusetts Regiment, was ordered to Chickamauga Battlefield, in Georgia.

FRANK G. BRYANT, '94, who paid us a visit June 17th and so successfully coached the graduates in the ball game, is with Charles H. Gilman, manufacturer of paints, varnishes and japans, at 103 Merrimac Street, Boston. Frank is married and lives at East Weymouth.

WILLIAM N. PHILLIPS, '94, writes us a very interesting letter from "Camp Thomas," Chickamauga Battlefield, Georgia. He writes; "I am here with the rank of musician, in Company L. of the Eighth Massachusetts Infantry. Our regiment was the first to volunteer its services, thus putting old Essex county at the head of the line. We were mustered into the regular service May tenth, and left for Chickamauga about two weeks afterwards."

CLARENCE ESTES, '95, is working for the publishing house of Ginn & Co., in the book-binding department. Clarence lives with his mother at 386 A Washington St., Somerville, Mass.



Ball Game

June 17th was a pleasant day, and was observed at the School as a holiday. We all had a good time. In the morning a number of graduates came, and more came in the afternoon. The graduates who were here during the day, were; Robert Blanton, Frank Bryant, George Buchan, George Davis, Clarence Estes, William D. Hart, Elkanah D. LeBlanc, Godfrey Meyer, Ernest E. Oakes, George M. Taylor, William Taylor, Edward Steinbrick, and William Winters. At noon those of the graduates who were here ate dinner in the boys' dining room after the boys had gone out. There were seven in all, but the table had been set for eight, and as there was an extra place and I had not had my dinner I ate with them. In

the morning some of the graduates practiced playing ball to be ready for the afternoon game. At about two o'clock George Buchan, William Hart, George Davis and Godfrey Meyer came over in a row boat that Meyer had borrowed for two hours. The ball game started at about the same time and there were ten on each side. The graduates' team was made up as follows; Edward Steinbrick, pitcher, Ernest Oakes, catcher, William Taylor, first base, George Taylor, second base, Robert Blanton, third base, Frank Bryant, short stop, Clarence Estes, right field, William Hart, left field, and George Buchan, centre field. The game was very interesting, sometimes the School team would be ahead, but in the sixth inning the graduates gained ahead of the others and kept the lead to the finish. The score was thirty-four to nineteen, in favor of the graduates. Those of the graduates who did not play ball spent the time in visiting the different places and in watching the game. All of the graduates except George Buchan and William Hart went at quarter past five.

MERTON P. ELLIS.

'97 Class Reunion

Nearly all of the members of the Class of '97 assembled here Friday, June 10, to hold a class reunion in connection with the exercises of Graduation Day. The Class listened with great interest to the graduation exercises of the Class of '98. After the exercises were over in the school room both classes, and the visitors who were here, went out upon the playground near Gardner Hall to witness the setting out and dedication of a young maple tree by the members of the Class of '97. Hon. Richard C. Humphreys, who addressed the Class of '97 last year, was present this year and gave the address of dedication.

Afterwards both classes, '97 and '98, had supper together, and enjoyed themselves greatly. After the supper the Class of '97 went to Gardner Hall and formed a Class Association, with William G. Cummings as President, Elbert L. West, Vice President, and George Buchan, Secretary and Treasurer.

ELBERT L. WEST.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

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Camp Phillips

In addition to the usual pleasures of vacation the boys were given an extra outing this year in the form of a regulation military encampment. Camp Phillips was so named in honor of William N. Phillips, a graduate of the Class of '94, who is now with the Eighth Massachusetts Infantry, having the rank of musician.

The camp was located beneath the trees of Oak Knoll, a rise of ground sloping gently upward from the centre of the island, westward, towards the bay, terminating in a steep bluff twenty feet high. Below were the quiet waters of Dorchester Bay, and just across these were the beautiful hills long ago made famous by heroic military deeds. In the midst of such surroundings the best results were obtained, since there was nothing to disturb the execution of duty or the pursuit of pleasure.

From fifteen to twenty boys were constantly present, this number changing only to make room for others. One of the regular officers from the Farm School was in attendance, he being the highest officer, the Commandant of the Camp. The other officers were selected from among the boys, care being taken to reward good honest effort with as high an office as possible. These officers were as follows. Captain, First Lieutenant and Second Lieutenant, Quartermaster, First and Second Sergeants, First and Second Corporals, and an Ensign. Each officer was held responsible for some special work of the Camp, and thus all cooperated to obtain the best results.

The commissary department was in charge of the Quartermaster; under him were two cooks. Ample rations were provided each day, so that three full meals added to the spirit of

the boys. The cooking was done in the open air, as well as all the work of this department. The mess table was a marvel of simplicity, but accommodated perfectly the entire camp. The rations were simple, yet wholesome and strengthening, with enough of variety to encourage the ever increasing appetites. In imitating the regular camp life perhaps we were in advance of the ordinary, as the following rations, selected at random, will show. "Potatoes, roast and corned beef, peas, tomatoes, bread and butter, jelly, peaches, coffee. The appetites were always present, and if these were indications the boys were certainly veterans, with wide experience.

Within the camp strict discipline was enforced, the regulations being as near as practicable to those of the army camp. A picket line was kept posted day and night, the boys meantime receiving instruction in guard mounting, picket and out-post duty. This not only permitted an orderly camp, but also furnished model instruction. As often as seemed best the boys were drilled in the manual of arms, using the School's guns. The "setting up" exercises were also gone through with several times, producing an erect and soldier-like appearance.

If a boy failed in the performance of his duty, or shirked it in any way, he was dealt with in accordance with the extent of the wrong. Two quotations from the camp records will show the manner of procedure. "First Lieutenant ———, charged with being in bed at roll call: tried, found guilty, reprimanded and compelled to wash the breakfast dishes." "Private ———, charged with leaving post of duty five minutes before time. Pleaded guilty, but said

it was only three minutes. Found guilty and required to go on extra guard duty." The object in each case was not necessarily punishment, but that the offender might be given a slight idea of the importance of doing his special duty just right; also the difference between a duty well, and one poorly done.

While the camp was primarily for pleasure, not a little instruction was given and received. After work was done, fishing, boating, rowing or swimming furnished enjoyment for many. After these had been enjoyed to the fullest extent the boys returned to take up work and obey orders with a spirit of happiness and contentment. This spirit pervaded the camp during the entire time it existed, and when at last the time for breaking camp came each returned to school duties invigorated in body, uplifted in mind and more determined in purpose.

J. F. Fisher

Drill at Camp Phillips

At five o'clock in the morning the bugle was blown and all the boys rose and waited until Assembly was sounded. Then we all formed a line while the Captain called the roll. All who were not in line were court-martialed. After that we were dismissed until breakfast, when we were again formed into line and marched to mess by the Captain. After breakfast all the work was finished and then we generally had leisure until dinner, when we were again marched to mess by the Captain. After dinner on some days we were drilled by the Commander. After breakfast the Corporal of the Guard put out his pickets. They generally had an hour to watch. He formed his line outside the tent and marched his guards to their places. They were to let no one in or out of camp except those who knew the countersign, or had a proper pass. An hour later the Corporal relieved his guards. At ten o'clock P. M. the first guard of the night went on duty. He was to march at right shoulder arms around the camp seeing that every thing was all right. If not he reported it to the Officer of the Day. He watched an hour and then at eleven he woke the next guard. If the guard woke his

man five minutes late, or too early, he was court-martialed. The guard who was on duty from 4 A. M. to 5 A. M. woke at 4.30 A. M. the cooks, ensign, captain and bugler. Any officer who during the day or night spoke to a superior officer, saluted first and then waited until the superior officer recognized his salute. Then he could speak what he had to say.

HIRAM C. HUGHES.

Fireworks at Franklin Park

The Thursday after the Fourth of July, I went out to Franklin Park to see a display of fireworks made and fired by the Masten and Wells Company. First rockets and bombs went up and came down in golden rain. Some of the rockets went up and sent off parachutes and other beautiful things. Then they had two poles with colored fire strung across from one pole to the other, with a long fuse at the end. When they lighted the fuse it lighted the row of colored fire, which looked very beautiful. After that they had an American flag and flag staff arranged out of fireworks. When the people saw that hoisted they all clapped their hands and cheered. Then they lighted two wheels which looked very pretty. Then they had arranged a picture of Hobson which looked very much like Hobson's picture. After that they had the picture of Dewey made of fireworks. There was an eagle over his head with flags and cannon on each side. His shoulder straps were gold color, the flags were red, white and blue, and his uniform was blue. When the people saw that they all clapped and cheered. After that they had the words "Good Night." When that was burnt the people scattered and went home.

FREDERICK F. BURCHSTED.

My Work in the Shed

The first thing in the morning, at half past seven, I get my broom and start to sweep. I sweep the upper and lower floors. I shine the faucet, clean the sink, and wash it out. Then I dust the benches, pile up the books and pick up the piles. Then I am all done and I report to Mr. Berry.

WILLIAM J. FLYNN.

Visit to the Industrial School

After the recent L. T. L. Convention at Dorchester, which ten of the Farm School boys attended as delegates, we had the pleasure of visiting the Dorchester Industrial School, under the care of Mrs. Clark. There were twenty-one girls there. In the yard there were two swings which are used by the girls, also a chute about thirty feet long, which is used in the winter by the girls when they go coasting. When we went into the house we came first to the laundry, which was not very large. The sitting room was a good sized room, with a good many comfortable chairs and a sofa. It looked very cozy. We then went up stairs, where the girls' rooms are. These, too, looked neat and comfortable. Each girl has a room for herself and is allowed to fix it up to please herself. Then we went up to the top of the house to the observatory and from there we could see our Island. We went out into the yard again and saw the place where the girls enjoy themselves on the Fourth of July. It was time then that we should start for home, and we hurried and got to the car just in time.

ALBERT E. PRATT.

Sunday Service at Camp.

While we were at Camp Phillips President McKinley issued a proclamation of thanksgiving for the victory of Santiago, July third. He asked the people of the United States to attend Church on the Sunday after the victory, to give thanks to God. So we had a special service that day in our camp. We gathered around our flag staff, under the Stars and Stripes, on the bluff looking over the water towards Dorchester. Mr. Bradley and Mrs. Bradley and the officers came over to attend the service. After we had gathered around the flag staff we sang a few Gospel hymns, with Howard Ellis playing on his cornet to lead the singing. We also sang America. After that Mr. Bradley spoke about the proclamation, what it meant and why the President had issued it. After Mr. Bradley finished speaking Mr. Fisher made a prayer.

WILLIAM C. CARR.

Collections of Boats and Soldiers

Many of the boys collect pictures of boats and soldiers. They get them out of old newspapers and magazines. When the boys begin to collect these pictures they get some old book that they do not want to keep and stick the pictures into it. They get mucilage at the office, or sometimes they are allowed to go to the reading room to do this. I am collecting boats and soldiers with Alfred Malm. We all have learned a great deal about the men and boats which are engaged in this war, in this way.

GEORGE THOMAS.

The Nahant Steamer

The Nahant steamer is quite a large steamer which runs from Nahant to Boston, in summer. It takes an hour to reach Nahant from Boston. At first the steamer goes to Bass Point wharf, and then from Bass Point to Nahant wharf. After the freight is unloaded and the passengers landed the steamer returns to Boston. Before winter the steamer starts for Florida, where it runs from the city of Jacksonville to Palatka. In the spring it returns to Nahant.

PHILLIPPE J. PARENT.

An Angler Fish

One day while I was working down on the beach I saw a fish called the "Angler," "Fishing Frog," or "Wide Gab." It was dead and had drifted on to the beach. The Angler is a fish about a yard long, and has a very large head. It somewhat resembles a tadpole in shape. It does not swim very fast, and cannot catch its food, which consists of smaller fish, by chasing them, but in a manner from which it gets its name of "Angler." It buries itself in the mud, and moves the filaments which project from its head backward and forward. The other fish, attracted by the shining tips of these filaments, come to see what they are and are immediately swallowed. The mouth of the Angler is very large and it has very sharp teeth. The size of the mouth gives the fish its name of "Wide-Gab."

THOMAS BROWN.

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CHARLES H. BRADLEY, Superintendent.

When a young man obtains his first position his first thought is concerning his salary or wages. This is right and natural, but lest he make a great mistake at the outset let him consider well the true meaning of the word *Salary*. We are all apt to think of it as money received for work done, but the word has a deeper meaning still. Perhaps we can grasp its meaning better if we use a recent and true illustration.

A young man after graduation worked in different positions for a large corporation. On account of his faithful application to work, he was offered a new position with twelve hundred dollars per year as a salary. But he felt he was not fitted for such a position and chose rather to work in a lower room at five dollars per week until he could master the new work. After a few months he was called into the head office and told that he could have a position next to the highest in the gift of the company, with several thousand dollars as salary.

What was the secret of this promotion? The young man was not working for money, but for his employers, for the sake of mastering his work, and in order that his work might be more perfect. A young man who could refuse a large salary for a small one was not working for money. The employer saw this and paid him the true salary, promotion.

Another young man had been in his position but a few months when he asked for an advance in his salary. His work would not command it, for he had not been there long enough to obtain even a fair knowledge of his position. But he wanted money. Visions of beautiful ties, gaudy shirt bosoms, white trousers and russet shoes were filling his mind.

An employer cannot reward a young man who is constantly worrying about his poor salary, and who spends more time and thought upon his clothes than upon his work. A neat, tidy and modest appearance is better than the gaudy make up of many of our young men.

The salary for which the two young men were working is very evident. The first drew not only money, but the good will and respect of his employer; the other was working for himself, and for money. Which of these two would you rather have in your employ? Which then would you rather be?

Here is a large canal. A boat going up stream comes to a lock. It enters the lock, water is let in from above, and soon it is raised to the level of the lock. It passes out, and so on up until it reaches the head of the canal.

So it is in the business world, and, in fact, in life. We start at the bottom. We cannot wholly raise ourselves. We cannot leap into prominence, and draw large salaries at once. By our own actions and attitudes toward our superiors we are lifted up one step at a time. They see we are not working selfishly and so they are anxious to reward us by promotion and advancement, until finally we stand at the head. A young man will never be lifted up by continually asking for more money, but by learning to love his work and by patiently waiting for the salary which is sure to come in the form of the high esteem of his employers, and the advance to positions of trust and responsibility and power.

Notes M. B. Thrasher

June 27. New refrigerator placed in store-room.

June 28. John Tierney admitted to the School.

June 29. Treasurer Mr. Alfred Bowditch and party made us a call.

June 30. New toboggan chute from the boat-house into the water was used for the first time.

July 3. John Peterson, '96, who is in the Lynn High School came to spend his vacation and share in the labors of the home.

George E. Davis, '96, came to spend the Fourth.

July 4. Holiday. Patriotic celebration as per programme published elsewhere, except that it was interfered with in the afternoon by an electrical storm.

July 5. Visiting Day. One hundred and seventy-seven visitors present, among whom were Vice-President, Eben Bacon, and Mana-

gers, Mr. Caleb A. Curtis and Mr. Henry S. Grew; graduates Clarence W. Loud, Charles A. Andrews, John E. Bete and Edward Rodday.

Finished Fourth of July programme of races, and fireworks in the evening.

Gift of fruit from the King's Daughters of Everett.

July 6. Military camp established on Oak Knoll and named Camp Phillips in honor of William N. Phillips, a popular graduate who is at the front in Puerto Rico.

July 10. Sunday. Religious services at camp in compliance with the President's proclamation.

July 12. Lieut. S. R. Della Sala of the Italian army and recently returned from the Abyssinian campaign came to assist at Camp Phillips.

George I. Leighton, Albert E. Stone and Horace P. Thrasher admitted to the School.

July 14. Treasurer, Mr. Alfred Bowditch with Dr. Edward M. Hartwell passed the day at the School.

Frank I. Lombard, '95, came to spend two or three days.

July 15. Dr. G. S. Reed gave a bundle of literature.

July 16. William D. Hart, '97, and Herbert A. Pulson, '96, came to spend Sunday.

July 17. Sunday. Broke camp at sundown.

July 18. School began.

July 20. Visiting Day. One hundred and fifty-four present including Treasurer, Mr. Alfred Bowditch, managers; Mr. Caleb A. Curtis and Mr. Henry S. Grew, also Hon. Richard C. Humphreys and graduates Mr. John Shaw, '55, Mr. Thomas J. Evans, '66, Chester R. Palmer, '95, King L. Davis, '97 and John A. Lundgren '97.

Don C. Clark and Charles Warner admitted to the School.

City water shut off for seven hours while connection was being made with the twelve inch pipe at Squantum.

THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

Fourth of July Celebration

A Fourth of July celebration by "land, sea and air," is something which is not possible in many places. That this combination can be had at the Farm School is one of the reasons why our celebrations of the national holiday have been so uniquely interesting and so exciting. The celebration of 1898 will be one which the Farm School boys will remember for a long time. Not only were the various games and sports set down upon the elaborate programme which had been prepared fully carried out, but in the afternoon the elements combined to give us, in the shape of a furious thunder storm, an exhibition of Nature's fireworks which showed how completely these can dwarf the most elaborate designs which man can make.

The day began with the flag raising and salute, at 4.13 A. M. Later came reveille and breakfast, and the Parade of Horribles. This was in charge of the Band, and the characters and costumes reflected great credit upon the boys. Perhaps the feature which elicited the loudest applause was "Uncle Sam," impersonated by Howard Ellis, who, riding in one of the farm carts, administered prompt and apparently sharp punishment to Spain, represented by little Tommy Maceda. The forenoon of the Fourth was intensely hot, but this did not detract from the interest in the sports set for that portion of the day. Of these the jumps, pole vault and putting the shot took place on the Campus, while the aquatic sports followed later in the water beside the Landing. At noon was served our regular Fourth of July dinner of roast lamb, green peas and watermelon.

In the afternoon the pupils gathered on the Beach Road for the remainder of the programme. Two large tents had been erected there for the accommodation of the spectators. Only a part of the games had been run when the sudden coming up of a thunder storm drove every one to take shelter in the spacious floors of the barns. During this storm a bolt of lightning struck three trees near the lower end of the Rear Avenue, stripping the bark from

them all. The storm was accompanied by a sharp fall of hail stones, many of which were as large as pigeon's eggs. The storm left the ground so wet that it was thought best to postpone the rest of the programme until the next day.

Tuesday, July 5th, a beautiful day, was our regular July Visiting Day. After the friends had gone the sports on the Beach Road were completed. In the evening there was a band concert on the lawn, followed by a handsome display of fireworks. The last and most unique feature, as it was also by far the most beautiful and thrilling, was the "Bombardment of Santiago," in which thirty boys on each side flung balls of fire back and forth across the Campus, one side slowly gaining on the other. The fire-balls were so prepared as to be harmless, but one who has not seen such a display cannot begin to imagine the brilliancy or the excitement which came from watching the hissing globes of fire as they swept through the darkness.

The programmes which were printed in the Farm School printing office, were very handsome and have received much praise. They were printed in red and blue upon five sheets of white Colonial paper, tied into a neat folder with red, white and blue ribbon. Among other commendations, the *Boston Transcript*, in a very complimentary notice, spoke of them as "brilliantly polychromatic and intensely patriotic." The programme in detail, with the names of the boys who took the various prizes, was as follows:-

4.13 A. M. SALUTE AND FLAG RAISING
Rising Hour

6.30 BREAKFAST

7.30 Parade of Horribles

8.00 Distribution of Supplies

9.15 SPORTS AND RACES ON THE CAMPUS

High Jump, Webber, Bartlett, Crowell.

Pole Vault, B. Gerry, Allen, M. Powers.

Standing Long Jump, Sanborn, J. Carr, B. Gerry.

Running Long Jump, Sanborn, J. Carr, B. Gerry.

Putting Shot, Sanborn, Tinkham, B. Gerry.
 10.00 AQUATIC SPORTS BY THE LANDING
 Swimming Race, under 13, Thompson, C.
 Hill, Malm.

Swimming Race, over 13, Pedgrift, C.
 McKay, W. Lanagan.

High Dive, Ellwood, G. Hart, W. Austin.
 Fancy Swimming, Ross, Ellwood, Russell.
 Greased Pole, over the water, Mayott, B.
 Gerry.

11.30 DINNER

12.00 SALUTE

1.30 P. M. RACES ON THE BEACH ROAD
 Hurdle Race, H. Hart, Curley, B. Gerry.
 Three-legged Race, H. McKenzie, Harris;
 G. Hart, W. Austin; J. Powers, W. Rowell.
 Sack Race, Simpson, Taylor, B. Hill.
 Crab Race, Brown, Bartlett, Thompson.
 Backward Race, Tinkham, Curley, Bartlett.
 Wheelbarrow Race, Curley, W. Carr, J. Carr.
 100 Yard Dash, under 13, C. Barr, J.
 Powers, Crowell.

100 Yard Dash, over 13, H. Hart, Curley,
 Leonard.

1st Special 100 Yard Dash, Maceda, G.
 McKenzie, E. Jorgensen.

2nd Special 100 Yard Dash, J. Tierney, R.
 Holmes, Taylor.

Half-Mile Race, H. Hart, M. Powers, S.
 Butler.

Mile Race, Tinkham, W. Carr, Pedgrift.

Barrel Race, C. McKay, J. Barr, H. Mc-
 Kenzie.

Tug of War, C. McKay, Edwards, J. Barr,
 Parent, Chickering, M. Powers, Car-
 penter, W. Lanagan.

5.30 SUPPER

7.30 Band Concert

7.24 SALUTE AND FLAG LOWERING

8.00 Fire Works

9.00 Bombardment of Santiago

10.00 TAPS.

Wm Austin

Military Titles

At this time it is interesting to know the origin of the most common military titles. Private is an adjective that has become a noun.

Originally the man in the ranks was a private soldier. The word comes from the Latin "privatus," to "separate from." The title of the lowest non-commissioned officer is Corporal. The Corporal has charge of a squad, posts and relieves sentries. Sergeant comes from the Latin "servire," "to serve." A sergeant is a servant. The Sergeant preserves discipline, teaches the drill and commands escorts. The lowest grade of commissioned officers is Lieutenant, and the title comes from the French "lieu," "place," and "tenant" from the Latin "tenens," "holding." A Lieutenant is, therefore, one who holds, or supplies the place of his superior. The title Captain, applied to the commander of a company, is from the Latin "caput," "a head." Major, the title of the officer next in rank, who commands a battalion, has its origin in the Latin "major," meaning "greater." A Lieutenant Colonel is an officer who holds the same relationship to a colonel that a lieutenant holds to a captain.

A very important commissioned officer of the regimental staff is the Adjutant, whose title comes from "adjutans," the present participle of the Latin verb "adjutare," "to assist," a very appropriate title. Staff comes from the Saxon "staef," "a stick, a prop or support."

Officers above the rank of Colonel are called general officers. A Brigadier-General ranks next above a Colonel, and commands a brigade; a Major-General is the highest permanent rank in our army. The President is the Commander-in-Chief of the armies of the United States, but the rank of General has been conferred under temporary laws only, upon four American officers, Washington, Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and is now held by Schofield, who is retired. The United States Army has at Washington an Adjutant-General, a Quarter-Master-General, a Paymaster-General, Commissary-General, a Surveyor-General, an Inspector-General, a Judge-Advocate-General, a Chief Signal Officer, a Chief of Engineers, and each of these departments is represented on the staff of commanding generals by officers of lower rank than a brigadier.

Alumni

WILLIAM J. TRIM, '71, is First Assistant Engineer on the Herman Winter, one of the fine large steamers of the Metropolitan Line between Boston and New York. This is Mr. Trim's eighth year in this responsible position, for which he had been thoroughly fitted by careful work on other smaller steamers near Boston and on the Atlantic coast.

RALPH W. TRIM, '77, who was the Farm School steamer's first engineer, is now at Manilla in the service of the United States Government. He is First Assistant Engineer on the transport Morgan City, one of the steamers which the Government bought of the Morgan Line for the use of the Navy.

The Francis Shaw Prizes

The semi-annual award of the Francis Shaw prizes, the Temple "Consolation" prizes, and "Honorable Mention" for the half year just ended is as follows. The award of these prizes is based upon our grade system of marking. The announcement of the names of the boys who had taken the prizes was made on the last Visiting Day, Mr. Bradley reading the list to the assembled company of pupils and visitors in Gardner Hall.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Frank Harris; | 2. William Carr; |
| 3. Merton Ellis; | 4. Hiram Hughes; |
| 5. Fred Burchsted; | 6. Ernest Curley; |
| 7. Herbert Hart; | 8. William Davis; |
| 9. Benjamin Gerry; | 10. Alfred Malm. |

Temple "Consolation" Prizes.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 11. Elbert West; | 12. Henry McKenzie; |
| 13. Daniel Murray; | 14. Fred Thompson; |
| 15. Harry Leonard. | |

"Honorable Mention."

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 16. Phillippe Parent; | 17. Daniel Loughton; |
| 18. Ernest Austin; | 19. Lawrence Allen; |
| 20. George Mayott. | |

A Rescue

I was asleep in the tent at Camp Phillips, one night, when, about half past twelve some one began shaking me and told me to hurry up, as there were some men in a boat off shore crying for help. I put on my trousers but could

not find my shoes, and I started. There were three men. They were shouting, "When is the next life boat coming?" They were drunk. It was pitch dark, and we could not see them for a time. When we did, one of them was standing in the bow of the boat shouting, "Ship ahoy!" and the other was crying, "Help! the boat is sinking!" Mr. Bradley called the Life Saving Station by burning a signal light, and Captain Clawson, himself, came over very quickly. The men were taken to the wharf, and we dragged the boat around to the wharf and made it fast. Mr. Bradley told me to get into the launch with the men and give the Captain a lift if he needed it. They were pretty quiet, going over to the Point. We gave them in charge of the police, and I came back, reaching camp at half past two.

SELWYN G. TINKHAM.

The New Road

Recently Mr. Fisher has had some boys to help him build a new carriage road over towards the South End. First we marked off the upper end with string. Then we took an axe and chopped the sod close up to the string. Then one boy would take a spade and rip up the sod while another would hold it back. The next day we had the plough over there and ploughed a little. Then we cut sods and put on the other side. We would turn the grass side down. We took all the large stones out. The road extends from the sand bar, around the root cellar and connects with the road which leads up to the house. It will be but a short time before it is all done. CHARLES B. BARTLETT.



It is told of Renaud that when he first went as senator to Paris, he engaged a room at a hotel and paid a month's rent—one hundred and fifty francs—in advance. The proprietor asked if he would have a receipt. "It is not necessary," replied Renaud; "God has witnessed the payment." "Do you believe in God?" sneered the host. "Most assuredly!" replied Renaud; "don't you?" "Not I, monsieur." "Ah," said the senator. "I will take a receipt, if you please."

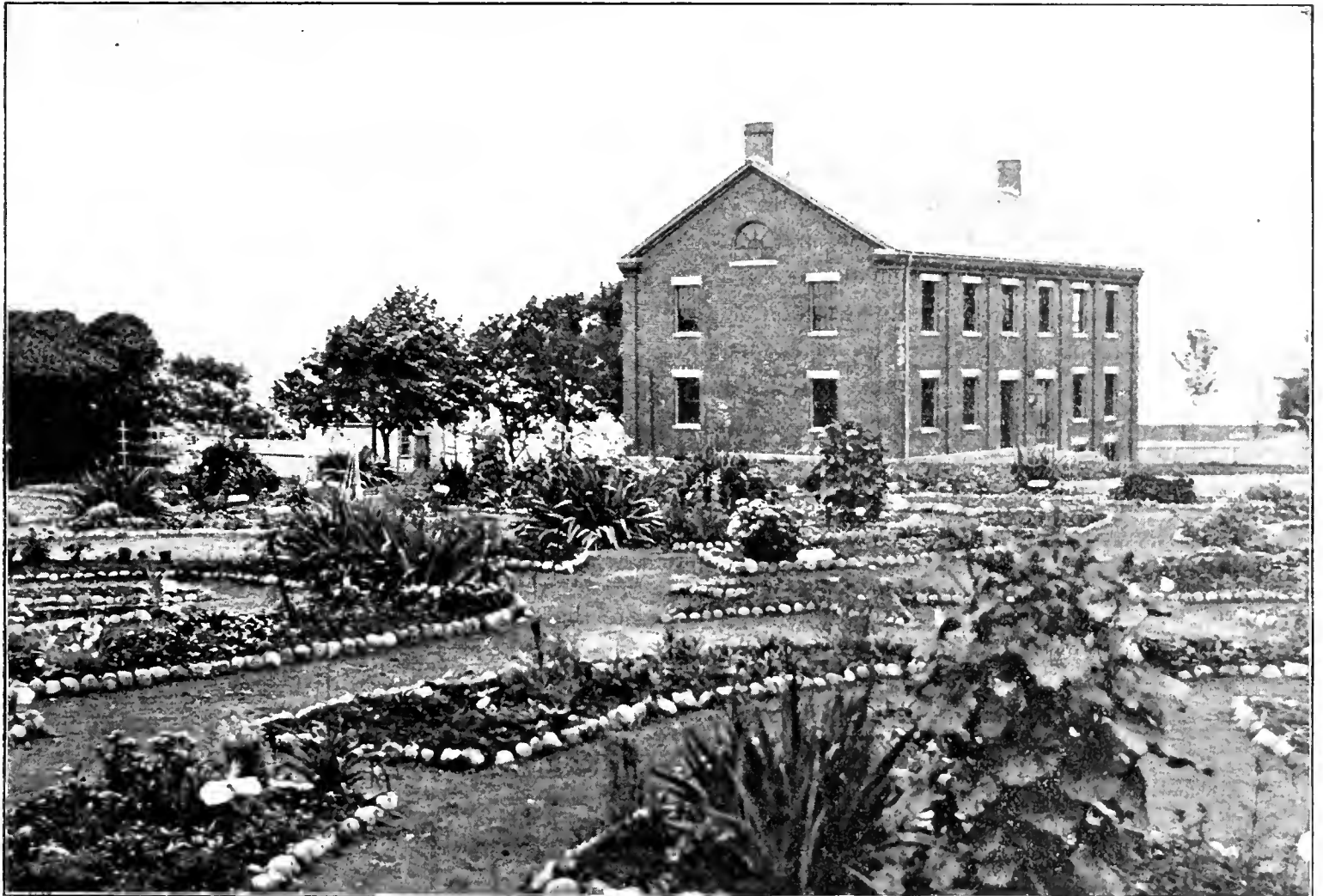
Thompson's Island

Beacon

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The Flower Gardens

One of the most attractive parts of the Campus is that where the flower gardens are situated. This is a large square plot of ground a few rods north of the main buildings. It lies very nearly on the highest ground of the Island, near the flag-staff, and commands extensive views of Dorchester Bay and the city on one hand, and the Harbor with its many islands on the other. A neatly trimmed high hedge of buckthorn, many years old, grows along the north and east sides of the garden plot, protecting it on these sides from the wind. An arched

passage cut through the centre of the hedge on the north side leads to the ball grounds and Cottage Row. To one standing in the garden the view out through this green archway forms one of the most beautiful pictures which can be imagined. Through an opening in the row of trees just back of Cottage Row can be seen, far in the distance, the hills of Winthrop, and, nearer, the blue waters of the main channel into Boston Harbor, up and down which passes all the shipping of the city.

The garden plot is divided into a great number of beds symmetrically laid out, but af-

fording a variety of designs. There are so many of these separate gardens that every boy can have one. The officers of the School also enjoy the pleasure of having gardens with the others, while several beds are reserved for the School as a whole.

With the earliest coming of spring work in the gardens begins. Beds are spaded and enriched. Walks are cleaned and graded. Each separate garden is neatly outlined with large cobble-stones of uniform size brought from the beach. Some of the boys have become so expert in this work of "stoning" the beds that their services are in active demand in the spring. Each boy is allowed to retain the same bed from year to year, if he wishes, and he thus gets the benefit of any perennials and shrubs which he may have cultivated. As soon as the season is far enough advanced to have warmed the soil the boys are given seeds. Each boy is allowed to select four kinds of seeds, and after this distribution is made the remainder of the large stock of seeds provided each year is equally divided. This method allows every boy to satisfy his own tastes as to the flowers which he prefers to cultivate. Pansies, asters, sweet peas and nasturtiums are favorites. Many of the boys also receive seeds and plants from their relatives and friends. Each boy is allowed to do just exactly what he wishes with his garden, the only two restrictions being that he keeps it clean of weeds and well watered. An ample supply of water is delivered from a hydrant in the garden, and plenty of sprinklers are provided. Any boy who fails to water his garden loses his "swim," a method of reminder which proves very effectual.

In September of each year prizes are awarded to the boys who have the best gardens. These prizes, which are called the Grew prizes, are given by Manager Mr. Henry S. Grew. Last year these prizes were won by William J. Pedgrift, Richard N. Maxwell, Phillippe J. Parent and Charles McKay, in the order named. But aside from any incentive which these prizes may afford, the boys cultivate their gardens because they are interested in

them, and from them they acquire a love for flowers and a knowledge of gardening which will be of great value to them later in life. It would be hard to find any time out of school hours when the gardens are deserted, while in the morning and early evening they are the most popular part of the Campus. The quantity of cut flowers which they furnish is almost unlimited. Each of the sixteen tables in the boys' dining room is always supplied with a fresh bouquet, as are the other rooms of the home, and there are always plenty of flowers for friends and visitors.

M. B. Thrasher
My Vacation Trip

When I went to see my friends in Everett, during the summer vacation, things seemed changed very much, for the last time I was in Everett was over three years ago. I had a nice time, as do all the boys when they go. I was up to stay five days. I went in swimming twice, once in the Mystic river and the other time in a place called "Divie," so named because there is a bank there which gives a fine chance to dive. I learned to swim here at my island home, so it was all the more fun. There are hardly any boys who go in the water here who do not know how to swim. There is a new public library at Everett. I saw the church to which I used to go to Sunday school, and many friends.

CLARENCE W. BARR.

Work on the Steamer and Boats

The steamer Pilgrim has a new coat of paint on her. The inside was washed clean and then it was sandpapered and varnished. The top has also been painted. On the deck there was a red color but we have changed the red to orange, which looks very nice. The hull has had two coats of white paint. The oil cloth has been changed for new. All this makes the Pilgrim look like a new boat. We have also been painting our small boats. First we take a little gasoline burner and burn off the name. Then we give it a good sandpapering and scrape off the varnish. After this is done we are ready for painting. We give each boat two coats, all over.

ALBERT E. PRATT.

Our Bank

Each boy has a bank account and is expected to have five cents or more in the bank. In the front of our bank book it gives the rules of the bank, banking hours, what to do when deposits are made and what to do if the bank book is lost. When deposits or withdrawals are made the change is also made in these bank books. The accounts are made up in three ledgers, lettered "A", "B", "C." The bank books are numbered and with each deposit or withdrawal we put on the slip the number of our bank book and the letter on our ledger, as my own, "202 B", so there shall be no trouble for the banker to find our accounts. In making out a deposit slip we sign our name, and the day of the month, year, the number of our bank book and ledger, and the amount of money we deposit. The check is similar, the only difference being that we put down the amount twice, once in figures and the other time in writing, adding the name of the person to whom the amount is paid.

WILLIAM I. ELLWOOD.

The Clambake

About a month ago I went on a clambake with two other boys. We asked Mr. Berry if we could go, and he gave us some matches. We went down by the North End bar and began to dig the clams. We got a large board and put the clams on it, then took them up to where we were going to bake them. Then we found some stones and made a fireplace. At first we got it too near the bank, and the fire would not go. So we moved it farther, where the wind would make the fire burn. As soon as the fire started we put the clams on. When they were cooked we would pick them off and eat them. Sam Webber was tending the fire while Chauncey Page and I were eating as fast as we could. By and by Sam began to think that he did not get many of the clams so he put some on the fire. Then the bell began to ring and we did not have time to bake all of them. But I had all I wanted. We had a very good time. We filled our pockets with the clams we had left.

EDWARD C. CROWELL.

The Figurehead

On the right hand side, coming up from the wharf, there stands a figurehead of a man, carved out of wood. He has on a robe like that worn by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. In one hand he holds a roll of papers. It used to be the style to have a figurehead on ships but it is not the style now. This one which we have was found on our beach, where it had washed ashore. Mr. Bradley had it brought up to the shop, where it was washed and scraped. Then it was painted with cold water paint. After leaving the shop it was put down near the wharf where people can see it when they come here. We do not know from what vessel it came.

DANA CURRIER.

Only a Piece of Driftwood

"Oh!" sighed the figurehead. "Here I have been knocked around in this world for these last fifty years, and now I am washed ashore to die. First I was a tall, staunch tree. I was chopped down and had carvings put all over me. Then I was placed on the bow of a ship and had wine spilt on me. I have had many voyages. Once I went to a place which the sailors called Maine, and got a load of lumber to bring back. Still another time I went on a fishing expedition off the coast of Newfoundland. Sometimes the water was very rough and splashed all over me. Some of the men talked about having me painted, but one replied, 'Oh no! the boat is old and I fear she will not last long.' His saying was true, for a few weeks afterwards when the ship was homeward bound a sudden storm broke out. All the people were in confusion. They were trying to find a place of safety. One poor fellow clung to me as the ship went down, but his grip was soon loosened, for the waves were too strong for him. Then when I had drifted many days I reached this shore. The world is quite enough for me," he said, as he sank into a sleep forever.

FRANK C. SIMPSON.

Not what you could be, but what you are, counts in this world.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

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“What shall I read?” is a question asked by many young people who have a few leisure hours before them. Some ask not only “What?” but “How shall I read?”

The world is full of books and papers, some good, some bad and some indifferent. In newspapers one finds a mass of material gotten together in a hurry and often without accuracy. That which is of national interest should be read first, and then the articles which will give one ideas concerning personal improvement. The lengthy, sensational columns

should never be read. The modern monthly magazine is always a welcome visitor. In it are articles and stories by leading authors. They give the thoughts of the leading men and discuss national affairs in a scholarly way. To read them is to catch more or less of the scholarly character of the writers. Of course there are poor magazines, and those filled with gaudy illustrations and exciting stories should never be patronized.

In selecting a book to read, great care should be taken. Time spent in reading a poor book is time wasted. To be sure the best books are often expensive and beyond reach, but there is no excuse for selecting the very poorest. There is a large class of cheap yet good books by prominent authors. When a book is read the reader always retains a part of the author's personality. Hence it is of great importance that the author should have a good name. Before a book is read the author should be known and, if possible, the reader should be familiar with his life and labors.

After an article or book has been selected, the next step is to ask how it shall be read? A great deal depends upon the article. If it is by a strange author his style and manner should be studied. The bright, strong passages should be noted and remembered. In each case personal intellectual improvement should be the object in reading. A book read and remembered will help the reader just so much. A wild, adventuresome story is of little value, for probably it never happened, and if it did, happened only under peculiar circumstances. If one loves adventures let the adventures of some noted missionary be read. The story of the life of John G. Paton or J. Hudson Taylor will interest and thrill the reader with the right kind of emotion.

A book should be read studiously and carefully, slowly rather than too rapidly. Let the standard be not, “how much read?” but “how much remembered and applied?” Read with the question, “Will I be helped or hindered?” in mind. Try to avoid cheap and degrad-

ing books and stories, for by so doing the mind is turned towards those which uplift and ennoble. When men keep company with good books their company is sought by other men. They are known as leaders, and respected as men of refinement and good judgment.

Notes

L. J. Reed

July 25. First cucumbers from the garden.

Mr. Fisher and boys began building a road from Spruce Ridge across the bridge to the vegetable cellar.

July 26. Mr. George B. Burnes gave a dozen cot beds for camp.

July 27. First sweet apples.

July 28. Miss Wright in charge of steamer cleaning, preparatory to polishing and varnishing the inside.

Hiram C. Hughes placed with Irving & Casson, Otis St., East Cambridge.

July 29. Mrs. Booker T. Washington visited the School.

Mr. Bettoney began giving the piccolo and clarinet players special lessons.

July 31. Mr. Hall, Sub-Master of the Lewis School, called.

Aug. 2. Four teachers from the public schools of Indiana visited the School.

Literature from Dr. G. S. Reed and John P. Ackers.

Aug. 6. First sweet corn.

Aug. 7. Sunday. Some of the instructors attended church in town.

Aug. 8. Treasurer Mr. Alfred Bowditch and Manager Mr. Henry S. Grew visited the School.

Miss Bertha L. Bartlett, former principal of the School and now instructor of gymnastics in the Philadelphia Normal school, visited us.

Aug. 9. Mr. Fisher and boys trimming trees.

Aug. 12. Our worthy temperance friend, Mrs. M. J. Magennis visited the School.

Aug. 13. Cottage Row library installed.

Boys engaged in their first Rugby practice.

Aug. 14. Sunday. Several attended church in town.

Aug. 15. Putting in new cesspool and drain from the main basement.

Aug. 16. First ripe tomatoes.

Aug. 20. Eight of our instructors made an excursion to historic Plymouth.

Aug. 23. Vice-President Mr. Eben Bacon and daughter, Treasurer Mr. Alfred Bowditch, Mrs. Bowditch and Rosmond Bowditch, Manager Mr. Henry S. Grew and Miss H. Struck from Berlin, Germany, visited the School.

Aug. 24. Clifford Pulson, '97, came to spend a few days.

Band gave old people at Long Island a concert.

Mr. Frank Morse, Master of the Shirwin School and a former teacher, passed the day here with his brother John R. Morse.

Aug. 25. Two English lop-eared rabbits and a pair of Guinea pigs added to the Audubon Hall collection.

Aug. 26. Winter stock of sugar and vinegar, with a load of miscellaneous freight brought over in the scow.

Aug. 27. Lawn party in the evening.

George Buchan, '97, came to spend Sunday with us.

Overhauling the hard water pump, put in new pipe.

At sunset the entire School, with all the instructors, gathered around the flag staff to witness the lowering of the flag with special ceremonies to commemorate the close of the late war. At the sound of the sunset gun the flag was lowered, the band playing "The Star Spangled Banner." Mr. Bradley spoke a few words appropriate to the occasion, all joined in singing America to the Band's accompaniment, and the boys gave three rousing cheers and a tiger for the flag and the government. Hereafter, as was the custom before the war, the School's pennant will be flown except on Saturdays, holidays and special occasions.

My Work in the Laundry

The laundry is the place where I work in the afternoon. There are four boys in the morning who wash the clothes, and four boys in the afternoon to do the ironing. Two boys work at each table. Two iron the boys' clothes and two iron the family clothes. The boys at one table iron the boys' napkins, shirts, sheets, pillow cases, family towels and boys' towels. The two boys at the family table iron table-cloths and napkins, sheets, pillow cases, laundry and dining room aprons and jumpers. Friday afternoons we clean up, doing such work as shining the brass and washing the windows and woodwork. The last thing we do is to wash the floor. Then we go.

JOSEPH A. CARR.

Blasting the Rock

There was a large rock on the west side of our Island which was called Daniel's rock. Some time ago Mr. Mason and two boys began to drill a hole in it. They drilled about a foot deep. Then they put about a pound of powder into the hole and put a fuse in about eight feet long. They then set a match to it and in about a minute a great explosion followed. When the smoke had cleared away the rock was all in pieces. The explosion blew one piece weighing about two hundred and fifty pounds about fifty feet, and a number of smaller pieces much farther.

GEORGE E. MASON.

Rainy Afternoons on the Farm

In the afternoon, when it is rainy and damp out of doors, the small boys that work on the farm go down into the storage barn and saw wood. Others go into the stock barn and sweep down cobwebs, wash windows, sweep the floor and do other small jobs. In the storage barn the boys who are not sawing wood go up on to the scaffold and pile barrels, fix the bushel boxes and clean up in every way. In winter, when it is stormy, the boys pick over potatoes, turnips, onions, carrots, apples, pears and different kinds of fruits and vegetables.

CHARLES W. JORGENSEN.

My Visit to My Friends

During the summer vacation Mr. Bradley let some of the boys go to visit their friends and relatives. William Austin and I went to Cambridge to visit some of our friends. We started from the Island at one o'clock, June 16th. On the 17th we went to Charlestown to see the parade. About four o'clock that day we took a ride out to Arlington on the electric cars. On the 18th we came into Boston. As we came and returned we went through the Subway. We then took a ride out to Mattapan on the electric cars, came home and had our dinner. In the evening we went to the Chutes and each went down once. On the 19th I went to the Art Museum, the Public Library and the Fenway in Roxbury. I also went into Boston and saw where the Boston Massacre took place. On the 20th we took a walk out to Brighton, and in the afternoon began to get ready to come home. We came to Park Pier and started for the Island on the Park Pier boat at five o'clock. We thanked Mr. Bradley for giving us the privilege of going, and told him of the good time we had.

FRANK W. HARRIS.

Our Schoolroom Flag

At the beginning of this term of school Miss Strong said that the row which had the most "fives" in a week could have the flag stand in front of it the next week. The boys are divided into two divisions, "A" and "B." There are four rows in all, two in each division. The row that I am in got the flag first. All the boys try to get the flag for their row on Monday morning. Before we march out Miss Strong chooses a boy to carry the flag who gets his lessons and is good. All the boys are glad to get a chance to carry the flag. We think it a great honor. Fred Thompson plays the harmonica for us to march out.

WILLIAM M. ROBERTS.



Great talkers are little doers.
Better no law than law not enforced.
That comes with honor is true Liberty.

The Spanish Tariff

Quite an amusing anecdote is told in "The Great Round World," of the effect of the Spanish tariff on flour at Santiago. It seems that the method of collecting Spanish duties heretofore has been a good deal of a farce. For instance, flour has been imported as "plaster of Paris." The records show that very little if any flour has apparently been received at Santiago. The duty on plaster of Paris was very low, and that on flour very high. It was an easy matter for the importer to bribe the Spanish officials to admit flour as plaster of Paris, and the duty was evaded in this way. Now, however, flour is flour and not plaster, and must be entered as flour.

The Bicycle Business

There is some reason for the belief that the bicycle business has been seriously crippled by its own prosperity. The business today is in a condition which is anything but satisfactory; and this condition is undoubtedly due primarily to the fact that the desire of nearly everybody to own a wheel enabled the comparatively few manufacturers who were first in the business to get prices out of all proportion to the cost of production, and thus tempted everybody into the business.

Military Rifles

There are two general classes of rifles now in use in the military service of the United States. These are single loaders and magazine guns. The first named of these are breech-loading guns which require the insertion of a cartridge by hand into the chamber before firing each shot. The magazine rifles are also breech-loading guns, and consist of two classes. The first of these two classes is provided with a device known as the "cut off," by which the cartridges in the magazine, when charged, can be withdrawn from the action of the bolt, thus enabling the magazine to be held in reserve while the arm is used as a single loader. Magazine fire, however, is available at any moment. The United States magazine rifle used by the army is a typical gun of this kind. The second class of magazine rifles consists of those which,

when the magazine contains any cartridges, cannot be used as a single loader. Arms of this kind are, strictly speaking, repeaters. This class of guns is represented by the Lee rifle of the United States Navy.

The Toboggan Chute

About six weeks ago the toboggan chute was put up on the boat house where the "Mary Chilton" is kept. The chute leads from the roof of the boat house down into the water. There are six toboggans at the boat house. When we have a swim the boys take a toboggan and when they go into the water it is just like shooting the chutes. One or more boys get on a toboggan together. When it is high tide only the boys that can swim can go down the chute. When the toboggan strikes the water it makes a big splash, skims over the water a little way and then goes down. Coming back to the wharf some of the boys push in the toboggan and some pull it in by the string. It is easier to pull it in. There is a ladder by which to get on top of the boat house. Nearly all of the boys in the School can swim.

GEORGE THOMAS.

The Boston Public Library

While I was on my vacation I went to see the Public Library. It is a large granite building on Copley Square. On the lower floor is the coat room, and a room where papers and magazines are kept. In the floor are figures in brass, and up on the ceiling are the names of many authors. A large staircase, leading to the floor above, is made of marble, and on each side of it is a huge lion carved from stone, dedicated to some regiments that were in the Civil War. On this floor is the newspaper room, the reading rooms, a drinking fountain and the elevator. On the top floor are the Sargent paintings, and large storerooms.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.

He liveth long who liveth well.
Honor is the tree that gives you shelter.
Honesty lasts longest.
Life is ended when our honor ends.
Ill comes in war's bark.

Alumni

SIDNEY E. TAYLOR, '88, spent the day with us recently. Mr. Taylor has an excellent position as traveling salesman for the large wholesale grocery house of E. P. Stewart, of New York City. Soon after graduating Taylor took charge of the news stand and ticket agency in Young's Hotel, remaining there three and a half years. From there he went to the Reynolds House to conduct the same business there for himself. He remained at the Reynolds nearly two years. In his present position he travels in the New England states, and makes his home at Hanover, Mass.

OVE W. CLEMMENSON, '94, has an excellent position in the engine room of the Herman Winter, of the Metropolitan Steamship Line from Boston to New York. For three years after leaving the School Clemmenson worked for the Atlantic Works, at East Boston. Later he entered the employ of Perkins & White, Contractors, as engineer on one of their dredgers, working for them upon the new Charlestown bridge and Commonwealth Flats contracts. Clemmenson enjoys his work in his present position greatly. He works with First Assistant Engineer W. J. Trim, a graduate of the School in 1871, and is having the advantage of Mr. Trim's long experience as an engineer. The Herman Winter is one of the best boats of the Metropolitan Steamship Company. She leaves Boston every Saturday for New York, and returning leaves New York every Thursday. She makes the run in from eighteen to twenty-two hours, according to the weather.

The Boston Subway

The Subway is a long passage-way under some of the streets of Boston. It was built for some of the cars to run in because the streets were so crowded. When I went through the Subway I went in at the upper end of the Common and came out at the Public Garden. On a hot day it is just cool enough to enjoy it. Just the same on a cold day, it is much warmer inside than it is outside. When the cars get in the Subway they go a good deal faster than

they do on the street because when they are on the street the teams are crossing and recrossing the tracks. To avoid danger in the Subway they have no one cross the tracks. In case of any one getting hurt, there is a room called the "Emergency Room," where they could be put until the doctor or an ambulance could come to them. This room has never been used for this purpose yet. Being under the ground one might think it would be disagreeable with the dampness in the Subway, but it is just as dry and comfortable as it is in any car station on the ground.

CHESTER O. SANBORN.

Recent Work in the Shop

Many small jobs have come into the shop recently. We have made six cages for Audubon Hall. There was a bottom drawer in each cage which was lined with galvanized iron. The cages were painted and then sent to the Hall to be put into use. There has also been a new entry built outside of the first school room door, leading to the play room. The one which was there before was not nearly as good as this new one. A stone drag has been built for the farm. It was made of oak and is larger than the old one. A five o'clock tea table has been made and many other small jobs have been done.

DANA CURRIER.

Swimming

The boys are very fond of swimming, and almost all of them can swim. We have a swim nearly every day, either after dinner or after supper, whenever the tide is the highest. We began having swims about the middle of June. We swim near the wharf, on the south side. Almost all of the boys who can swim go in from the wharf, and the other boys go in from the beach. Some of the boys dive from the wharf and a few dive from the top of the boat house. This year we have a toboggan chute which the boys like greatly. It starts from the top of the boat house and runs out into the water. We also have a float anchored out in the water, on which we have great fun.

HENRY F. MCKENZIE.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

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The Cottage Row Court

The Judicial Department of the Cottage Row government consists of a Judge and seven jurymen. The jurymen are elected by ballot at the regular quarterly elections. The Judge is elected by ballot, but holds office during good behavior, or until he resigns, either because he goes away from the School, or for some other reason.

The Chief of Police attends to all arrests, and is always at the trials. The Chief of Police has two regular patrolmen to assist him in his duties, and with the advice of the Mayor can appoint special patrolmen if at any time he thinks such help is needed. All the complaints of the citizens are made to the Chief of Police. He consults with the Judge, and if the latter decides that there are just grounds for a case he issues a warrant. The Chief of Police then makes the arrest. The accused are not locked up, as in most places, because we are so near each other that it is not needed, but they are summoned before the Court.

As our City Hall is not large enough to hold Court in we have the use of the first schoolroom for our trials. The Court is called to order at eight o'clock in the evening, and adjourned at ten o'clock, or earlier if the Court is through. If there is more than one boy to be tried, one is kept in the Court Room and the others are assigned to different places, and are in charge of patrolmen. A convenient place, and one in which they are usually kept, is the end of the long hall which goes down past the clothing room. When any one in the building sees two or more boys standing down there in the evening they may know that Court is in session, and that some boy is under guard wait-

ing his turn. The defendants are allowed to have lawyers if they want them, and some of the boys have become very expert in the practice of this profession. All the witnesses, defendants and complainants are made to take the oath of the Cottage Row government. The Clerk sees that the oath is taken by all, and answered to in a respectful way. This is our oath;- "—— ———, please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly promise to speak the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth? If so please answer 'I do'." If the defendant is willing to make a statement he is kept standing, and is examined either by the complainant's lawyer, or by the Judge. Then come the examination of the witnesses on both sides and the pleas of the lawyers. The Clerk reads his report of the case, and the Judge gives the case to the Jury. The Jury leaves the Court Room to consider the case.

Whenever the Court is in session the jurymen are all there. If the defendant objects to any jurymen, that one is dismissed and another boy is appointed to his place for that case. Any jurymen can address the Judge through the foreman of the Jury, but otherwise he has nothing to say until the jury leaves the room to decide whether the defendant is guilty or not. If found guilty he is sentenced by the Judge, but if he is not found guilty he can have the complainant arrested and sued for damages. Some of the sentences which the Judge gives out are for the boys to keep away from the cottages for so long a time, or if the doors and windows in the cottages need fixing to fix them. A boy found annoying "Nannie," the goat kept tethered on the campus in front of Cottage Row, was sentenced to take care of her for a month.

FREDERICK HILL, JUDGE.

Trip to Fort Warren

Saturday, September tenth, the Band and the first-grade boys went down to Fort Warren. We started about one o'clock. The Band went on board the steamer Pilgrim, and the others in the Chilton. When we arrived at the wharf we lined up, the Band in the lead, and marched into the fort. We went through an entrance about five feet by three feet square. On the inside is a large parade ground, with trees and the houses in which the volunteers sleep. Then the Band played several pieces, after which Dr. Johnson, the surgeon who lives at the Fort, brought out a lunch and lemonade. When we got through with that, Col. Woodruff, the officer who is in command at Fort Warren, showed us all over the place. We found it very interesting. There are three ten-inch disappearing guns, and the places are started for two more. There are also two four-inch rapid-fire guns, two Napoleon cannon, one Gatling gun and over one hundred Rodmans. In front of the new guns the cement and stone wall is about fifty feet thick. When the fort is completed it will have seventy-eight modern guns in all.

SELWYN G. TINKHAM.

The Lawns

We have three large lawns, one in front of the house and one on each side. In two of these lawns are trees and flower gardens. In the gardens different kinds of flowers grow, such as geraniums, roses, pansies and lilies of the valley. The other large lawn is called "the boys' lawn," because we use it more in summer to sit and read or lie down on. On this lawn is a hydrant from which we get water to sprinkle our gardens and lawns. All of these lawns are kept very clean all through the year by the small boys who are not large enough to do other work. These boys are divided into two squads, called the "pick up squads," one working in the morning and the other in the afternoon. The morning boys work from half past seven to nine o'clock, and the afternoon boys from one o'clock to half past two. Some of the trees on the lawns are maple, pine and oak. On one of the lawns are grounds for croquet and lawn tennis. ERNEST W. AUSTIN.

Band Concert at Long Island

Not long ago Mr. Bradley took the Band down to Long Island to entertain the poor people there. Mr. John Morse, our band instructor, went with us. We went down there in our steamer Pilgrim, and when we landed we marched slowly up to the house. When we began to play, the people popped their heads out of the windows. We first played to the men. We then went over to the women's department and played there a while. The old women began to clap their hands and cheer when they saw us coming. While the Band was resting, Mr. Morse called upon my young friend Frederick Thompson and myself to give a little music on our harmonicas. The people liked that music the best of all. They liked the "Irish Washwoman" very much. Two old women got up and began to dance a jig. Fred and I came near laughing out while we were playing. After we were done playing the Band was shown around into the different departments by the Superintendent. We then had lunch. After that we came home. SAMUEL W. WEBBER.

The Cowboys' Work

One other boy and myself take care of the cows in the afternoon. I take a sickle and rake and the other boy takes a sickle. After we drive the cows over to the pasture I take my rake and rake the road leading to the pasture while the other boy cuts tall weeds and thistles. After I get the road done I take my sickle and help him. After we get that done we clean up the ground in Lyman Grove and on Oak Knoll. Then we drive up the cows.

CHARLES A. TAYLOR.

The Milkers

There are four milkers, three boys and one of the farmers. We get up at five o'clock in the morning and take the milk pails down to the barn. We then put on our overalls and brush the cows' bags so that no dirt will get into the milk. After we have milked a cow we weigh the milk. After we have milked all our cows we give the report to Mr. Chamberlain. We then carry the milk to the house. We do just the same work again at five o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANK W. HARRIS.

The Odd Fellows

Nine of the boys whose fathers were Odd Fellows went over to the city September twenty-first to see the Odd Fellows' parade. We went over with Mr. Berry. We had a good place to stand on Boylston street. The parade reached where we were standing about one o'clock. The line was led by Perkins' Band. The Massachusetts division came next, and then the other divisions, such as Rhode Island and New York. Through the parade there were a few goats at the head of different divisions. At the head of the Rhode Island division there was an Indian, and at the head of the Providence division a man in Puritan dress. I suppose he was to represent Roger Williams. At the head of another division there was a ram and a shepherd with a shepherd's crook. Each division was dressed alike, which made them look very nice. We did not stay through the whole of the parade but while we were standing there fifty-four bands and three drum corps passed us.

ALBERT E. PRATT.

Meeting of our L. C. L.

Sunday, September 18th, some of the ladies of the W. C. T. U. came here for the purpose of reorganizing our Temperance Legion. The exercises were opened by singing and speaking, and afterwards the boys chose officers for the senior and junior societies. Each had a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Color-bearer. These were for each society as follows: Senior Society, Howard B. Ellis, Leo T. Decis, Thomas Brown, Chauncey Page, William C. Carr; Junior Society, Clarence W. Barr, John J. Powers, Frank C. Simpson, Fred L. Walker, James A. Edson. There also came a number of girls from Company M, with Mrs. Frisbee, who presided over the meeting. After the exercises the people visited our gardens and cottages and bouquets of flowers were presented to the ladies and girls. The boys also gave them some of their Cottage Row cards. Mrs. Frisbee invited the Seniors to attend a meeting in South Boston, October 8th.

THOMAS BROWN.

Our View of The Naval Parade

Friday, September 2nd, there was a great deal of excitement at our Island about the war boats just coming back to Boston from the war. At dinner they were the principal topic of conversation. After dinner the next hour was spent in anxious watch for them. At one o'clock, instead of going to work, our bugler played "assembly," we lined up double file, marched down to the wharf and went on board the John Alden, which was to be towed by our steamer. When everything was ready we started. By the time we got to "Buoy No 7" the first great monster, the Massachusetts, on which is a boy from our School, loomed up into sight. She received three cheers from our steamer's siren whistle, also three cheers and a tiger from the boys, and a selection of patriotic airs played by the School Band. This was so for each, and until the ninth and last, the Topeka, had passed, all received their share of honor. Each boat had to go very slow on account of the number of pleasure boats. It seemed that all the boats in the harbor were there to greet them. The tow boats were crowded, and all kinds and sizes of boats from the Miles Standish and Plymouth down to little flat bottom boats were there. After seeing this sight we went over to the Life Saving Station, where a few selections by the Band were played. Then we returned to our Island and had a swim and a half holiday.

WILLIAM I. ELLWOOD.

Admiral Sampson

When the boys came back from their visit to Fort Warren they brought a rabbit with them. He was a gift from the wife of Col. Woodruff, the Commander at the Fort. He had been christened while he was there "Admiral Sampson." He has a streak of black down his back, around his eyes is black and he has a spot of black on each side. All the rest of him is white. He was brought back in a box and kept in the office a while. Then the Curator came and got him and gave him his place in one of the cages in Audubon Hall.

WILLIAM AUSTIN.

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Success in Business Life

By Hon. Charles T. Gallagher.

Whenever I have been asked by boys and young men the secret of success in business life, I have told them to apply the principles of moral teachings as exemplified in the development and employment of "honesty and industry;" while the latter may be comprised in the former for practical purposes.

the two may be used and applied separately. A boy who is honest of course will be industrious, but by endeavoring to be both, strength is added to each.

By being honest is meant not only the telling of the truth, avoiding the appearance of deceit, and always dealing justly with others; but the application of these things in treating with one's self, in the school room doing the best possible work, in the work shop or on the farm doing everything thoroughly, in competitions of all kinds doing the best one can to succeed, and in every position where one is placed, doing not only the task set or accomplishing the end required, but doing a little better than is expected.

General Taylor, a successful business man in Boston, starting in life with no more or better opportunities as a boy and young man than any boy at Thompson's Island, in an address to young men at Dartmouth College, said, "In whatever position you take in life, always do a little more than is expected of you." This is a golden rule of success in itself.

Honesty calls not only for good work, but also for the best methods of employing one's time; never becoming a drone, but always keeping the mind and body actively engaged in some pursuit that will best conduce to good results.

Charles Dickens says, "The first evidence of dry rot in a young man is when he is seen aimlessly hanging around street corners." Always have an aim in life; if you have leisure employ it profitably and when you have done your work well for your employer and occupied your leisure profitably to yourself and human kind, you will be on the straight well-graded road to success. But the cardinal principle is honesty, after all. This gives a young man character, "the diamond that scratches every other stone."

DR. SAMUEL ELIOT, prominent as a historical writer, educator and philanthropist, died Wednesday, September twelfth, at his home at Beverly Farms.

Dr. Eliot was for a number of years Vice-President of the Board of Managers of the Farm School, and although he resigned from that position several years ago on account of the pressure of other duties he always retained a warm interest in the School. The editorial in the June number of the BEACON, "A Boy's Opportunity," was written especially for this paper by Dr. Eliot, and in a letter accompanying it he wrote to Mr. Bradley;- "It is a pleasure even to try to help your good work."

Dr. Eliot was born in Boston, December twenty-second, 1821. It is rarely that into any one life has been crowded so much efficient and unselfish work for others as it was his privilege to look back upon. Graduating in 1839 from Harvard College, and leading his class, in which were such men as Dr. Edward Everett Hale and Rev. Samuel Longfellow, Dr. Eliot soon went abroad to make a special study of the art of teaching. When he returned he began a school for workmen which was very successful. Later he went to Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., and was for four years President of that College. In 1872 he became connected with the Boston public schools, as Master of the Girls' High School. Afterwards he was Superintendent of the schools of Boston, and for several years an efficient member of the School Committee. He was President and Director of the Perkins Institute for the Blind, at South Boston, and very largely instrumental in founding and making successful the famous School for the Feeble Minded, now at Waverly. In addition to these positions he was a member of many important societies and a director in such enterprises as

the Massachusetts General Hospital, and the McLean Hospital. Dr. Eliot wrote a number of valuable books on historical and educational subjects, and made several translations from the Spanish language.

The Farm School flag was placed at half mast on the day of Dr. Eliot's funeral, in respect to his memory.

The September number of "*The Dawn*," the paper of the Connecticut School for boys, at Meriden, Conn., copies the whole of Richard Maxwell's article on Sloyd printed in the July number of the BEACON. "*The Dawn*" says there is no Sloyd department in the Connecticut School, and that it reprints this article "because it conveys such a correct idea to the general reader" of Sloyd work.

Notes

Aug. 29. Mr. M. Anagnos, director, and Mr. Flanders, steward of the Institute for the Blind visited the School.

Mr. Wm. G. Reed gave one lot of stereopticon slides to the School.

Aug. 31. Visiting Day. One hundred and ninety five present, among whom were graduates Chester R. Palmer, '95, John A. Lundgren, '97, Hiram Hughes, '98, William L. Snow, '90 and Thomas J. Fairbairn '97.

Sept. 2. Parade of war ships on their return from Cuba. The whole School went out to meet them in the steamer and scow, with the band.

Sept. 4. John Peterson, '95, who has been spending his summer vacation at the School, returned to Lynn to take up his course at the Lynn High School.

Sept. 5. Ervin L. Oakes, '95, and John A. Lundgren, '97, passed the day here.

Fireworks from the war-ships in the evening.

Sept. 6. Graduates Edward G. Rodday, '94, and William G. Cummings, '98, here.

THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

Sept. 7. Benjamin F. Gerry left the school to work for the S. A. Wood Machine Company and to live with his mother in Chelsea.

Charlie Ross secured a position with Miss Mary F. Adams of West Medway, Mass.

Sept. 8. Charles E. Andrews, '96, spent a few hours at the school.

Prof. John H. Brewer of Brooklyn, N. Y., a friend of Miss Strong, delighted the boys with stories and piano recital.

Sept. 10. Fifty boys, including the band and a few of the instructors, visited Fort Warren.

Sept. 13. Lawrence F. Allen went to work as assistant janitor at the Kindergarten for the Blind, in Jamaica Plain.

Sept. 17. Albert Stone returned to his mother.

Sept. 18. Sunday. Re-organization of Company X of the L. T. L. Twenty-four women and young ladies of the W. C. T. U. were here to take part in the exercises in the afternoon.

Graduates George Buchan, '97, and Benjamin F. Gerry, '98, present.

Sept. 19. Mr. Berry visited Orra Becker at Auburn, Mass.

Sept. 20. Winter supply of oil put in.

Merton P. Ellis, Elbert L. West and William J. Pedgrift attended class reunion at George Buchan's home.

Mr. Fisher went back to Andover to resume his studies at the Theological Seminary with the opening of the school year there.

Sept. 21. A squad of boys went to town to view the Odd Fellows' parade.

A red squirrel added to the Audubon Hall collection.

Sept. 23. Summer term of school closed.

Putting up new wire fence on south side of Spruce Ridge.

Sept. 24. Heavy northeast storm.

Sept. 26. Finished digging potatoes.

Rank in Classes

The following named boys ranked first and second respectively in their classes for the summer term of school.

FIRST CLASS

Henry F. McKenzie Thomas Brown

SECOND CLASS

Carl Alfred H. Malm William I. Ellwood

THIRD CLASS

Thomas Tierney George Thomas

FOURTH CLASS

Daniel W. Loughton Robert McKay

FIFTH CLASS

Barney Hill, Jr. Willard H. Rowell

SIXTH CLASS

George A. McKenzie Samuel Weston

Classes in School

The fall term of school begins Monday, October third. The classification will be as follows:

FIRST CLASS

William Austin	Ernest Curley
Ernest W. Austin	William Davis
Thomas Brown	Frank W. Harris
Samuel F. Butler	Henry F. McKenzie
William C. Carr	Chauncey Page

SECOND CLASS

Herbert E. Balentine	Frederick Hill
John F. Barr	Alfred Lanagan
Charles B. Bartlett	John T. Lundquist
John J. Conklin	Carl Alfred H. Malm
Dana Currier	Albert Pratt
Charles A. Edwards	Charles A. Taylor
William I. Ellwood	Samuel W. Webber

THIRD CLASS

Clarence W. Barr	George Mayott
Charles A. Blatchford	Charles McKay
Frederick F. Burchsted	Daniel Murray
George F. Burke	Axel E. Renquist
Walter L. Carpenter	William M. Roberts
Joseph A. Carr	Charles W. Russell
Henry W. Chickering	Chester O. Sanborn
Edward C. Crowell	Frank C. Simpson
George E. Hart	Arthur D. Thomas
Charles Hill	George Thomas
Charles W. Jorgensen	Frederick Thompson
Albert H. Ladd	Thomas Tierney

FOURTH CLASS

Edward L. Davis	Walter D. Norwood
Warren Holmes	Michael J. Powers
Daniel W. Loughton	Newton C. Rowell
Harry H. Leonard	Charles F. Spear
Robert McKay	Frederick L. Walker
William Mourey	Clarence W. Wood

FIFTH CLASS

Ralph O. Anderson	George I. Leighton
Walter L. Butler	Phillippe J. Parent
Don C. Clark	John J. Powers
Andrew W. Dean	Willard H. Rowell
James A. Edson	John Tierney
William Flynn	Samuel A. Waycott
Barney Hill, Jr.	Lester H. Witt
Ralph Holmes	Carl L. Wittig
Elmer A. Johnson	

SIXTH CLASS

Ernest N. Jorgensen	Horace P. Thrasher
George A. McKenzie	Charles Warner
William C. Morgan	Samuel Weston
Frank A. Roberts	

SEVENTH CLASS

Thomas Maceda

Our Pheasants

We have two English pheasants. A friend of Mr. Bradley's gave them to us. After a little they were let go after they had their wings cut. As soon as they were let go they ran as fast as their legs would carry them. They will probably build nests and have flocks of little ones next summer if they get along all right. They are frightened when any one goes near them. When they were in the cage if any one went near it they would fly up and strike their heads against the wires.

Pheasants are very good birds to eat. These birds are very numerous in England. The people there are very strict and severe about protecting their birds. I was told that any one having in his possession pheasant's eggs would be given three days in jail for each pheasant's egg he had. We hope to have a lot of pheasants, so that we can have a pheasant farm, as well as a vegetable farm.

JOHN T. LUNDQVIST.

The U. S. Naval Academy

The Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., of which both Admiral Dewey and Lieutenant Hobson are graduates, was founded by George Bancroft, who was Secretary of the Navy under President Polk. He started the school by assembling at Annapolis all midshipmen on shore, an abandoned military post having been given to him for that purpose by the Secretary of War. The pupils were given instruction in launches, similar to those used at the Academy today. After this was done Congress voted money enough to repair the building. The school was opened by Commander Franklin Buchanan as Superintendent, October 10th, 1845. Two years were spent at the school and two years at sea. The course is now six years, the last two of which are spent at sea. The studies and training are severe. There are eleven departments with eighty-six instructors, over forty of whom are naval officers. Among the subjects taught are seamanship, naval tactics, naval construction, ordnance and gunnery, astronomy, navigation and surveying, steam engineering, applied mathematics and mechanics, physics and chemistry, besides the usual English studies.

Cadets are admitted to the Academy between the ages of fifteen and twenty. There are three hundred and fifty students in all, of whom three hundred are at the Academy and fifty are at sea. Fifteen cadets are commissioned every year. The other graduates are given an honorable discharge and \$1000. While at the Academy they are paid \$609.50 and after they are commissioned, \$920, and rations. Besides the studies, social life is provided for, because an officer must have ease of bearing and polished manners. Dancing is therefore taught, as at West Point. Music is furnished by the Academy Band, one of the finest in the United States. The grounds about the Academy include 166 acres. These are kept very neat. There are a great many buildings, including the officers' residences, church, hospital, lecture halls, laboratories, workshops and recitation rooms.

C. E. Littlefield

Alumni

RALPH O. BROOKS, '94, graduated from the Somerville English High School this year having completed the regular four years course there. Brooks has held a prominent place in his class during the entire course. For two years he was President of the Class, has been Treasurer of the "Radiator," the High School paper, and this year was President of the "Debating Club of the Class of '98," and President of the "Chemical Society." During the last four years Brooks has worked summers, during vacation, as assistant to a civil engineer, last year doing some transit work; but he intends to make chemistry his special study and work. In writing of this recently, Brooks says:—"I have a fair laboratory at home and have done an average of thirty hours work each week in chemistry for the last three years, so that I am doing work now which only a post-graduate course at the 'Institute' would give." His work in this study was so thorough that he was offered the place of assistant to the instructor in Chemistry in the Somerville English High School during the coming year.

The Class of '97 Reunion

The Class of '97 held their second reunion on Tuesday evening, September 20, at George Buchan's home at Upham's Corner. There were present: George Buchan, King L. Davis, William G. Cummings, Hiram C. Hughes, John A. Lundgren, Clifford M. Pulson, William J. Pedgrift, Elbert L. West and myself. The last three are at the School but we got there before seven o'clock while the others did not come until eight. There was not very much business, the most important being to choose a committee to draw up a plan to go by, which would cover everything. If two thirds approved it would pass, if not another would be made up. The committee was to meet a week from that time at the same place. There were three in the committee, John Lundgren, King Davis and George Buchan. King Davis kindly promised to settle our postage bills if we did not have a meeting every week. After the busi-

ness was over we had some refreshments and then we went into the parlor. Miss Buchan played some pieces on the piano and sang, and the boys joined. We stayed there until twenty-five minutes of eleven and then we took a car for the Point arriving at the boat, which was waiting for us, at just quarter past eleven, the time we were to be there.

MERTON P. ELLIS.

The Spiders

There are many kinds of spiders on our Island. The boys give them names, such as "golden," "silver," "brass-back," "funny fellow," and the common spider. They make their webs at night. When a boy wants a spider to put in his garden he asks Mr. Berry if he can go down in the field and find one. They are mostly in the tall grass and ditches. Then he puts the spider on some tall plant in his garden, where he soon builds a web. The boys put grasshoppers, crickets and small insects into his web and the spider runs up to them and wraps them with a web that he takes from his body. When the spiders get fat they change their skin. Sometimes they lay eggs. The eggs hatch in the spring.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.

My Work in the Schoolroom

At one o'clock in the afternoon I come into the school-room to do the work. First I erase the work upon the blackboard and clean out the troughs and get chalk when it is needed. Then I take the waste paper basket and clean out the desks. The next thing is to dust. Then I look the boxes over to see if there are any pencils to be sharpened. If there are, I go into the second schoolroom, where the pencil sharpener is and sharpen them. Then I give out the boxes, papers and books to both classes. There are two classes, the first and second. I am in the second class. When we sing I have the singing books to put out and the piano to open. When I get the teacher's books out on her desk I am done and report to her. Twice a week I get a fresh bouquet for the schoolroom.

ALFRED C. MALM.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 2. No. 7.

PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS.

November 1898.

Our Library and Reading Room

Our library contains nearly a thousand volumes, and new books are added to it each year. There is no special time for these additions to be made. When a new book is published which seems to be of particular value and interest to the boys Mr. Bradley buys a copy for the library, or some one gives the book. Manager Dr. John Homans, 2nd, is especially interested in the library and contributes much to it. Sometimes a book is bought because it has a special bearing upon something in which the School is interested at just that time or because it illustrates some study which the pupils are taking up then. Frequently friends of the School, or visitors who have been here and have seen what an interest the boys take in the library, send us books. Such gifts are always very welcome and are highly prized.

The library is kept in large book-cases in the first schoolroom and in the reading room. The cases all have glass fronts so that the books can be kept clean and free from dust. The books which are kept in the reading room form what is known as the "reference library." This includes the large books, such as full sets of the Encyclopedia Americana, and of the American Cyclopedic, a complete file of bound volumes of Harper's Magazine from the beginning of its publication, many bound volumes of the Century and of Scribner's, and several valuable atlases. The library in the schoolroom consists of a miscellaneous collection of carefully selected books, comprising works of history, science, travel and fiction. Among them are Prescott's and Abbott's histories, and Scott's and Dickens' novels. There are also sets of the books of Oliver Optic's and Charles

Carleton Coffin's, both of which are always eagerly read. As these books appeal to a boy's love of country, his patriotism is strongly developed. A later book which has been constantly read, and with great pleasure, is Kipling's "Captains Courageous." The books are all neatly covered with strong gray paper and have a label pasted on the back to show the number and location, as "L 5-44," which means book No. 44, on the fifth shelf of the left-hand bookcase.

Miss Strong is librarian. Each person taking out a book has a library card on which is written the number of the book and the date it is taken out. A very neat and convenient catalogue of the books in the library has been printed in the printing office. It contains several blank pages at the end for future additions to the library. The regulations which govern the use of the library and reading room are printed on one of the first pages of the catalogue. They are as follows:-

"Books may be drawn from the Library at any seasonable hour during the week, but the regular times are 9 o'clock Sunday morning and 7.30 o'clock Wednesday evening.

"Library privileges are extended to every one connected with the School. Each person will be allowed to take but one book at a time.

"Books of reference and other books, magazines and papers found on file in the Reading-room, are not to be taken from the room, except by permission from the office. It is expected that all books and periodicals will be used with proper care."

The reading room is a convenient and commodious room, opening out of the first schoolroom and the main hall. In it are kept

on file many of the best papers, magazines and juvenile publications. Among them are "The Boston Daily Transcript," "Harper's Weekly," and "Harper's Young People," "The Youth's Companion," "Success," "Scientific American," "Marine Journal," "The New England Homestead," "Massachusetts Ploughman," "Farm-Poultry," and many others.

The boys, almost without exception, take books regularly from the library, and read them, while the opportunity to come to the reading room is one of the most highly prized privileges, and this tendency is encouraged because it is felt that a firmly fixed habit of reading good books, magazines and papers is one of the strongest and most helpful agencies available in the formation of correct character.

Gathering Onions M. B. Thrasher

About the first work we did this fall on the farm was rolling the onions. Three boys took a barrel and took two rows of onions each and rolled the barrel over them. The next thing we did was to pull them up. Each boy took two rows. When he finished those rows he took two more, and so on till we had finished the piece. When the onions were dried enough the boys that have knives topped them. They had to cut the top half an inch above the onion. When they were topped we put them in bushel boxes and carried them to a chute leading into the farmhouse cellar and slid them down. We then carried over a hundred and twenty-five bushels up to the barn to be sent to the city. We sorted them over, and put the large ones in one box and the small ones in another.

THOMAS TIERNEY.

Making Photographs

We have a very good dark room in which some fine photographs have been made. The first thing in the making of a photograph is to load the dry plate holder with plates. The plate holder is a light frame of wood with a division of pasteboard or aluminum. It also has two shutters of pasteboard. These shutters are perfectly light tight. After an object has been chosen the camera has to be focussed; that is, to bring the object to be taken into the center

of the plate. The camera must be kept very still while a time exposure is taken. A snap shot is different. Then an object can be taken in motion. After the plate is exposed it is taken into the dark room to be developed. There all the light is shut out except the light from the ruby lamp. The plate is put into a tray with developer in it. When the plate is developing the first thing noticed is the sky. Then the whole outline comes out. When the plate is developed enough it is put into the "fixing bath." When it is "fixed" it is set up to dry. After the plate is dried, the photograph is printed and then the print is put on a piece of glass to polish it. Then it is mounted, and is done. Mr. Fisher and Mr. Chamberlin have taken some very nice pictures this summer with Mr. Bradley's camera and with their own. The picture of the Hall and the flower gardens, which appeared in the last number of the BEACON, was taken by Mr. Fisher, with Mr. Bradley's camera.

HERBERT E. VALENTINE.

Our Harvest Concert

On Sunday evening, October 23, we held our Harvest Concert, in the first schoolroom. The exercises began at 7.30 and ended at 8.45. They were well rendered and interesting. The programme is printed elsewhere in this number of the BEACON. The schoolroom was very prettily decorated with the different products which we have raised on the farm. The corn and pumpkins showed out particularly well. On each side of the stage were four pieces of joist going from the floor to the ceiling. These were covered with ears of corn, making them look like golden pillars. On these were nailed some boards to which stalks of corn were fastened, making it look like a row of corn growing. Over these were hung strings of peppers and horse-chestnuts. Above these, against the ceiling, was a long row of ears of corn. In the center were two gates which were decorated with sliced ears of corn. When the choir sang the gates were shut, and then opened again when the boys came out to speak. There were large bouquets of autumn flowers and in each window piles of vegetables which looked very nice. HERBERT A. HART.

Harvest Concert Programme

SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
GATES OF PRAISE	
GREETING	<i>Chauncey Page.</i>
GLORIA PATRI	<i>Choir.</i>
PRAYER	<i>Mr. Fisher.</i>
RESPONSIVE READING	<i>Leader and School.</i>
GATES OF ZION	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
O SING OUR FATHER'S GOODNESS	
RECITATION	<i>Axel E. Renquist.</i>
SEEDTIME AND HARVEST	
RECITATION	<i>{ Thomas Maceda,</i>
	<i>{ Ernest N. Jorgensen.</i>
QUESTION AND ANSWER	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
PRAISE HIM EVERY VOICE	
RECITATION	<i>Samuel F. Butler.</i>
WHATSOEVER THINGS ARE LOVELY	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
IN THE GRAY NOVEMBER	
RECITATION	<i>Willard H. Rowell.</i>
THE REAPERS	
RECITATION	<i>Charles W. Jorgensen.</i>
THE TWO ANGELS	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
WHAT SHALL WE RENDER	
RECITATION	<i>Class.</i>
GATES OF PEARL	
RECITATION	<i>Charles W. Russell.</i>
HIS BENEFITS	
SONG AND RECITATION	<i>{ Alfred C. Malm</i>
	<i>{ and Choir.</i>
WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN PROVIDED FOR	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
ALL HAIL	
RECITATION	<i>Frank W. Harris.</i>
WHAT YOU SOW	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
CROWNED WITH GLORY AND HONOR	

The Brockton Fair

The first of October five boys, including myself, went to the Brockton fair. We went with Mr. Mason. We left the Island about

eight o'clock, took the 9.15 train for Brockton and arrived at the fair about ten o'clock. First we looked around at the different animals and then we had our dinner. After dinner we went into a building and looked at the vegetables, carpets, pictures and wagons. We then went over and watched some acrobats do tricks. We then went up on the grass by the side of the racing track and watched the races. There were bicycle racing and horse racing. We watched two clowns who were plaguing a small pony. The pony would chase them and try to bite and kick them. There was a dancing horse that would dance to the time of the band music. Just before we were ready to start for home a large balloon went up. As soon as it was up in the air a man popped out from something that was hanging from it which looked like an umbrella, so that he would come down slowly. We reached home about six o'clock.

FRANK W. HARRIS.

The Dormitories

In the dormitories there are 100 beds. There are three dormitories. One is called the west dormitory, another the east and another the north dormitory. In the west dormitory there are forty eight beds, in the east there are forty beds and in the north dormitory there are twelve beds. The large boys sleep in the west dormitory, the middle sized boys sleep in the east dormitory and twelve small boys sleep in the north dormitory. The beds were black a few months ago but the painters are painting them white, which looks very much better.

SAMUEL A. WAYCOTT.

My Work Picking up

The first thing in the morning, at half past seven, I go into the lower shed and get in line. When Mr. Berry says "Small boys pass," I go out to work. There are six boys in our squad. The first thing we do is to pick up leaves and things from the shed to the hall and then from the shed to the gardens. When that is done we do the boys' lawn and the playgrounds. Then Axel Renquist, who is in charge, reports to Mr. Berry. Then we shine our shoes and play until schooltime. WILLARD H. ROWELL.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island. Boston Harbor.

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A great deal of pleasure and profit of this life consists in being able to "see things." A person deprived of the sense of sight wishes very much that he might see, yet there are people who, although not blind, only half use this heaven-bestowed gift. Such people use their sight to go from place to place with, but when it comes to using it for personal improvement, for seeing the wonders and beauties of

Nature, and the goodness of God they might as well be totally blind.

Youth, of course, is the best time in which to form the instructive habit of observation. A boy will naturally see more objects around him than an older person, but he is not so apt in remembering what he sees. The first lesson, then, is to remember what we see. A certain noted man was accustomed to recall, just before retiring at night all of the interesting objects observed during the day. This inspired him to try to see more each day, and thus he not only acquired the habit of seeing but of remembering also. This man, it is needless to say, could engage in interesting conversation. He was a bright, well-posted man, and was known as such by his friends. A young man, engaging in conversation, often finds himself without words. This need never be the case if he observes all the interesting things about him, and remembers them.

The beauty of this habit is that it can be practiced while other duties are being done. As you are at your work take a glance about you. What do you see? Nothing? Try it again. You will soon be surprised at the number of objects you can see in a moment of time. The plate in a camera is exposed to the light for only the hundredth part of a second, yet when the plate is developed there are a host of objects on it as clear and vivid as if the camera had been open for a week. A quick observation, in which one sees everything, should be cultivated. After an object has been seen it should be studied, thought about. As you go up the street you see a crowd of people gathered about a fakir trying to dispose of a worthless "cure-all." Is there anything in that scene to be remembered? What is it? As you turn a corner you see a young man helping a feeble old lady across the street. What is there

about this little scene that excites your admiration? You look into a shop window and see there a late invention which is exciting great interest. As you pass on will you forget it? Here is a great painting. Study its fine points. Be able to talk about it. A few feet farther along you come to some brilliant show bills, covered with gaudy figures. Does that attract more attention than the painting? Does a study of it develop your acute, scholarly bearing as the painting does?

Two boys go from home on a short excursion. One saunters leisurely along, looking only for a chance to talk to somebody. He spends the day in idle talk to idle people, and in giving information which should be known only in his own family. The other boy passes deliberately along, looking now at this large building, studying its proportions, and looking now at the landscape, observing its slopes, its hills and valleys. He sees a new piece of machinery. He politely asks the man in charge just why this lever should make that wheel turn as it does. Thus quietly he proceeds all day, and when the excursion is over he finds himself literally full of interesting subjects, and not only can he talk about what he has seen but he can also rest assured that the lessons he has learned will sooner or later be of great use to him. Thus do boys and men differ. But we know which is right and profitable, therefore let us try to see and know all we can. As he goes about let each boy walk with his eyes, ears, and heart wide open. If he does this he will grow up a good, useful and honored man. God has given us eyes with which to see, therefore let us look for Him and his wonderful works until we have found them.

C. F. Fisher



Lost time never returns.

Notes

Sept. 28. Finished cutting corn.

Re-organization of the choir.

Sept. 29. John W. O'Neil called.

Manager Mr. Francis Shaw visited the School.

The new officers of Company X conducted their first meeting.

Sept. 30. Manager Mr. Richard M. Saltonstall gave a horse.

Oct. 1. Mr. Wendell Hull measured boys for winter shirts.

Visiting day. 215 present. Among the number were Secretary Mr. Tucker Daland and Manager Mr. Henry S. Grew. Graduates Benjamin F. Gerry, George Buchan, John E. Bete and John Scott were present and remained over Sunday.

Oct. 2. Sunday. Rev. A. S. Gilbert from Boston Baptist Bethel conducted services in the afternoon.

Oct. 3. Mr. Frederick G. Pettigrove and Mr. Joseph F. Scott visited the School.

Oct. 4. Furnaces being overhauled.

Howard L. Hinckley admitted.

Former assistant superintendent, David H. Holmes, made us a visit.

Meeting of the citizens of Cottage Row. The following officers were elected. Judge, Howard B. Ellis; mayor, Frederick Hill; aldermen, Dana Currier, William I. Ellwood and William Mourey; assessor, Henry F. McKenzie; street commissioner, Frederick W. Thompson; chief of police, George Mayott; jury, William J. Pedgrift, Chauncey Page, Samuel F. Butler, Charles A. Edwards, Henry McKenzie, George Thomas and Clarence W. Wood. The mayor appointed as clerk, William Austin; curator William C. Carr; librarian, Herbert E. Balentine; treasurer, E. Carl Crowell; janitor, Walter L. Butler. The chief of police appointed as patrolmen, William C. Carr and George Thomas.

Oct. 5. Mr. Thrasher visited Ralph Gordon in Middleboro.

Mr. Mason brought in an apple which

measured twelve and one half inches in circumference.

Oct. 6. Raymond W. Packard, of the U. S. Marine Corps, called.

Oct. 7. Mr. Mason and a detachment of boys attended the Brockton Fair.

Oct. 8. Mr. John R. Morse contributed the expense for special lessons on the clarinet.

Miss Wright with a delegation of boys from Company X attended the state L. T. L. Convention.

Mr. F. H. Dean, Master of the Grew School, Hyde Park, contributed five books to the library.

Oct. 9. Rev. William Full of the Dorchester Street M. E. Church, addressed us in the afternoon. Miss Alma Speight rendered a solo and a duet was sung by Miss Speight and Mr. Ham.

Oct. 10. Apples all gathered.

Elbert L. West began work for Newhall & Co., Malden Square, Malden, Mass.

Oct. 12. Finished getting in the mangels.

Oct. 13. Cottage Row Court in session.

Oct. 15. Rev. James Huxtable visited the School.

Oct. 16. Sunday. Mr. Fisher conducted both afternoon and evening services.

Oct. 18. Finished pulling the carrots.

Oct. 19. Selwyn G. Tinkham began work as blacksmith for the Plymouth Ccddage Co., Plymouth, Mass., and Arthur D. Thomas went to live with Mrs. Elinor G. Francis.

Oct. 20. The last melons gathered.

Workmen putting in new furnace in west basement.

Oct. 23. Sunday. Rev. W. I. Sweet of Everett spoke in the afternoon. He was accompanied here by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dow.

Harvest concert this evening.

Oct. 24. Started furnace fires.

Oct. 25. Steamer went to Lawley's for the usual fall overhauling.

Oct. 26. Albert Traill visited the School.

Oct. 27. Manager Mr. Francis Shaw passed a few hours at the School.

Oct. 28. First frost this morning.

The tomatoes all gathered.

Fred Philbrook Thayer admitted.

Oct. 29. Boston's crack trombone quartette, which includes LeRoy S. Kenfield, '82, and John B. Cartwright, '80, came down to give our boys a sample of their music, much to the delight of the whole School. Harold E. Brenton, '90, the popular cornet soloist now playing at the Park Theatre, was also here and rendered sweet music.

Oct. 30. Sunday. Mr. Reed from the Andover Theological Seminary passed the day here with Mr. Fisher and assisted in the afternoon service.

Mr. Bradley and family attended the funeral of Carl A. Hart whose body arrived on the Bay State's last trip from Puerto Rico. Many of the graduates will remember the jolly visit which Carl and his four brothers made us some months ago. Although Carl was so young, only sixteen, the many sincere tributes of respect and esteem, both public and private, which have been called forth by his death show that a boy's character will be recognized when he tries to make it what Carl Hart made his. In his life and in his death he taught lessons from which all boys may well take pattern.

Oct. 31. Government officers made their annual inspection of the steamer Pilgrim and she is again in commission.

Usual Halloween sports omitted on account of necessary rehearsals and drills.

Playing Rugby on Stilts

A new game the boys have got up is playing Rugby on stilts. First the boys get up two sides and line up. The side which has the kick takes the block and puts it on the ground and gives it a kick to the other side. They have to be on stilts. Then they all go in and try to kick it past the goal. If a boy falls off his stilts he cannot kick till he is on again. The stilts are made of wood. They are of all sizes.

.CHARLES W. JORGENSEN.

Fixing a Place for the Animals

Recently William Pedgrift and I were told to fix a place for the animals, in the last pen in the henhouse. We tore down the henroost and took down the wire netting that separated this pen from the next one. Then we scraped and cleaned the floor and whitewashed the walls. We put up posts and shelves for the cages. There are eight cages on a shelf. The window and screen were taken out and a platform built under the window sill, with a walk on one side for the animals and steps on the other for people. The yard was cleaned and the fence repaired, so that the animals can be let out in the yard. Then the animals were taken down there from Audubon Hall for the winter.

THOMAS BROWN.

Neatness

Neatness goes a great way. When any one wants a boy in his employment he always looks for a neat and tidy boy, not only neat about his clothes but about his work and writing. Some boys make a practice of keeping themselves neat, while others have no care how they look or do. You must keep your shoe lacings tied, your face and hands clean and your hair combed, and many other things in that line. A boy that is always spilling ink or blotting his papers will never make a success if he does not brighten up. Many boys do not have clothes that they can keep neat, but we have all the clothes that are needed and can keep them neat if we try.

FRANK C. SIMPSON.

The Peacocks

We have two peacocks which were given to the School by a friend of Mr. Bradley. They were brought to the Island the last of August by Selwyn Tinkham and Merton Ellis, who went over to Quincy in a row boat and got them. When they reached the boat they tied the birds' legs and wings so that they could not fly. Peacocks are great flyers. They fly three or four hundred feet. In the experience I have had with them when driving them into the henhouse at night they would be just about going in when they would catch sight of the roof and then instead of going through the door into the house they would go on to the roof. Then I

would try and scare them down, but one night when I was trying they saw a better place, where I could not get at them, and that was on top of the storage barn. They flew up there and then they would make a noise like a boy shouting, and they seemed to say, "I fooled yer, this time. Heh!" The peacock is beginning to have his tail grow out, so it will be pretty large next spring. The peahen does not have any tail feathers like the peacock himself. The color of the peahen is a sort of light brown. The peacock is green and blue, golden, white and black. When he stretches his green and blue neck it makes him look quite pretty. The peacocks are about the size of a turkey. When I feed them and they think the hens are going to have more than their share, they chase the hens away until they get what they want.

JOHN T. LUNDQUIST.

Loss of Life in the War

The United States Navy, during the recent war, lost only seventeen men killed and had sixty-seven wounded. At Manila not one man was killed, and the men injured returned to duty. At San Juan one man was killed and eight were wounded.

Figures just issued by the War Department at Washington show that our total casualties in Cuba, during the war, were twenty-three officers and 237 men killed, and ninety-six officers and 1,382 men wounded. In Puerto Rico the total casualties were three men killed and four officers and thirty-six men wounded.

Superstitions about Iron

Iron was known in ancient Egypt as the "impure metal," "the bones of Typhon," "father of evil," and no one should touch it without making an atonement. Iron tools were forbidden in the building of the Temple at Jerusalem. The natives of the Gold Coast must remove any articles of iron when consulting their Fetich. People in Scotland used to thrust a nail or knitting needle through each article of food in the house when a person died. These superstitions sprang from the conquests made by early people with iron weapons over people still in the stone and bronze age.

Alumni

JAMES H. GRAHAM, '73, holds a very responsible position as Engineer and Assistant Superintendent of the huge Fiske Building, on State Street. This building cost half a million dollars and is one of the most imposing, as it is one of the most substantial structures in Boston. It is interesting to know that, although the Fiske Building now stands so far up State Street as it does, when the excavations for the foundations were being made the workmen dug up many fragments of the old wharves which once extended as far as there. When Mr. Graham graduated he entered the office of the Rubber Manufacturing Company, remaining there some time. From there he went to work for what was then the South Boston Street Railway Company, as conductor. His next position was that of Fire Engineer at the Union Club building, on Park Street. This was over ten years ago. When the Fiske Building was erected, nine years ago, he was at once employed there and has been there ever since. Mr. Graham is married and lives in Roxbury.

RAYMOND W. PACKARD, '94, made us a call a few days since. He has been serving as a marine in the United States Navy for about one year and was stationed at Guantanamo Bay for some time. He has come back in very good health and spirits and for a time will be at the Marine Barracks, Portsmouth, N. H.

WILLIAM G. CUMMINGS, '98, recently entered the office of Herbert & Quincy, 19 Milk Street, as an assistant.

Fall

Fall is here. Squirrels are beginning to gather up their winter stores. Children are beginning to gather nuts. Others are helping to gather in the crops. The leaves of the trees are turning beautiful colors and the flowers are going to seed. Things all seem to be dying. But they are not; they are only going to sleep for the winter. Next year they will spring up as beautiful as ever.

HENRY W. CHICKERING.

Autumn in the Country

Up in the country, how does it look?
Bare trees bending over a brook;
Masses of gray cloud piled up together;
Farmers out plowing in all the fine weather;
Bareheaded children shouting at play—
Up in the country to-day.

Up in the country the long sunset lingers,
Tracing the sky with roseate fingers;
Autumn is painting with russet and brown
Meadow and mountain and hilltop and town,
And washing with rain the summer away,
Up in the country to-day.

Night-winds are moaning, day-winds are
whirling,
Keeping the grasses and dead leaves a swirling;
Translucent sunbeams are gilding the hills;
Freshet and shower are swelling the rills;
Winter is coming in just the old way,
Up in the country to-day.

Helen M. Winslow.

Putting in Carrots and Cow-beets

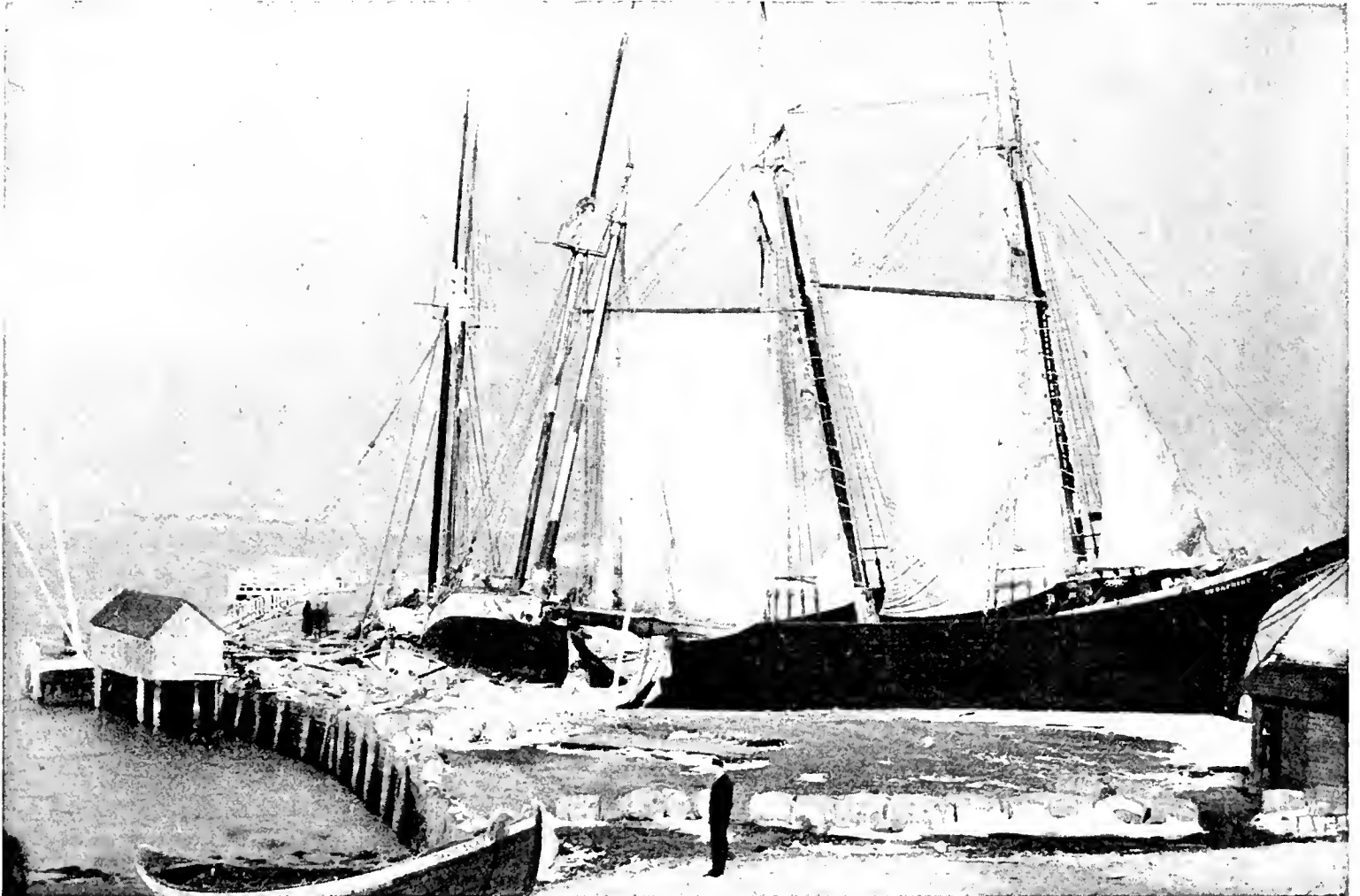
When we first started on the cow-beet piece Edward Steinbrick set the smallest boys at work pulling beets and the largest boys topping them. I topped about twenty minutes. Then Ed told Daniel Murray and me to get two bushel boxes and go up to the stock barn cellar and wait until the cart came. In a little while the cart came with a load of cow-beets. Then we took the boxes, filled them and took them into the root cellar. We do the same with the carrots, only we dig the carrots and another boy comes and puts them in a pile and after that they are topped and brought to the barn to be stored. The carrots are lighter than the beets. If we get them in before the cart comes we fix up in the cellar.

WILLIAM FLYNN.

A little girl who had listened to a sermon from the text, "My cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life," upon being asked what the text was, replied, "Merciful goodness, my cup's tipped over."

Beacon Supplement

Thompson's Island, December, 1898.



VIEW FROM STONE GATE OF THE SCHOONERS "SERAPHINE," "WATCHMAN" AND "FRED A. EMERSON."

November Storm and Tidal Wave

Thanksgiving week of 1898 will be memorable in the history of the Farm School as having preceded the most disastrous storm which has ever broken upon our Island. Although the duration of the storm was barely one night and one day very much more damage was done than by any other storm recorded in the history of the School. Two men were drowned, a part of the crew of a vessel wrecked here, and nine other seamen narrowly escaped a similar fate, being rescued only by prompt assistance afforded by the instructors and boys. Four large schooners were driven into the

wharf or upon the beach near the wharf. One of these was totally wrecked and went to pieces. The School's steamer the "Pilgrim," a staunch craft which, at her mooring behind the breakwater at the wharf had ridden safely through the greater part of the storm, was struck by the "Fred A. Emerson," the last of the schooners to come ashore, cut partly adrift and then collided with, sunk and ridden over until she was an absolute wreck. The breakwater was very badly damaged, one entire side of the wharf rail carried away and much of the planking and some of the timbers broken. Both floats were cut adrift and broken to pieces, one being carried clear to Squantum and washed over the line of the

electric railway there. The life-boat "David Sears" was broken adrift and cast upon the beach a quarter of a mile from the wharf, and three of the School's row boats were lost, the "Standish" being crushed at the wharf, while the "Priscilla" and the "Brewster" were washed adrift when the floats were broken loose, and with one float blown to Squantum and landed, broken, in a meadow there. The "John Alden," our freight barge, was broken loose from its mooring and beached near the South End of the Island.

Through the earlier part of the day, Saturday, November 26, there was nothing in the appearance of the sky and the water to cause concern, but in the afternoon the wind shifted to the east and by five o'clock it was evident that bad weather of some kind was threatening. The steamer "Pilgrim" left Park Pier at 5.15 P.M., to return to the Island. When Mr. Bradley reached the wharf, realizing that a severe storm was apparently imminent, he had unusual precautions taken to have everything about the wharf and boats made snug and secure as possible. The heavy extra hawsers were put upon the steamer to make her fast, and the lashings of the small boats were tightened and made secure.

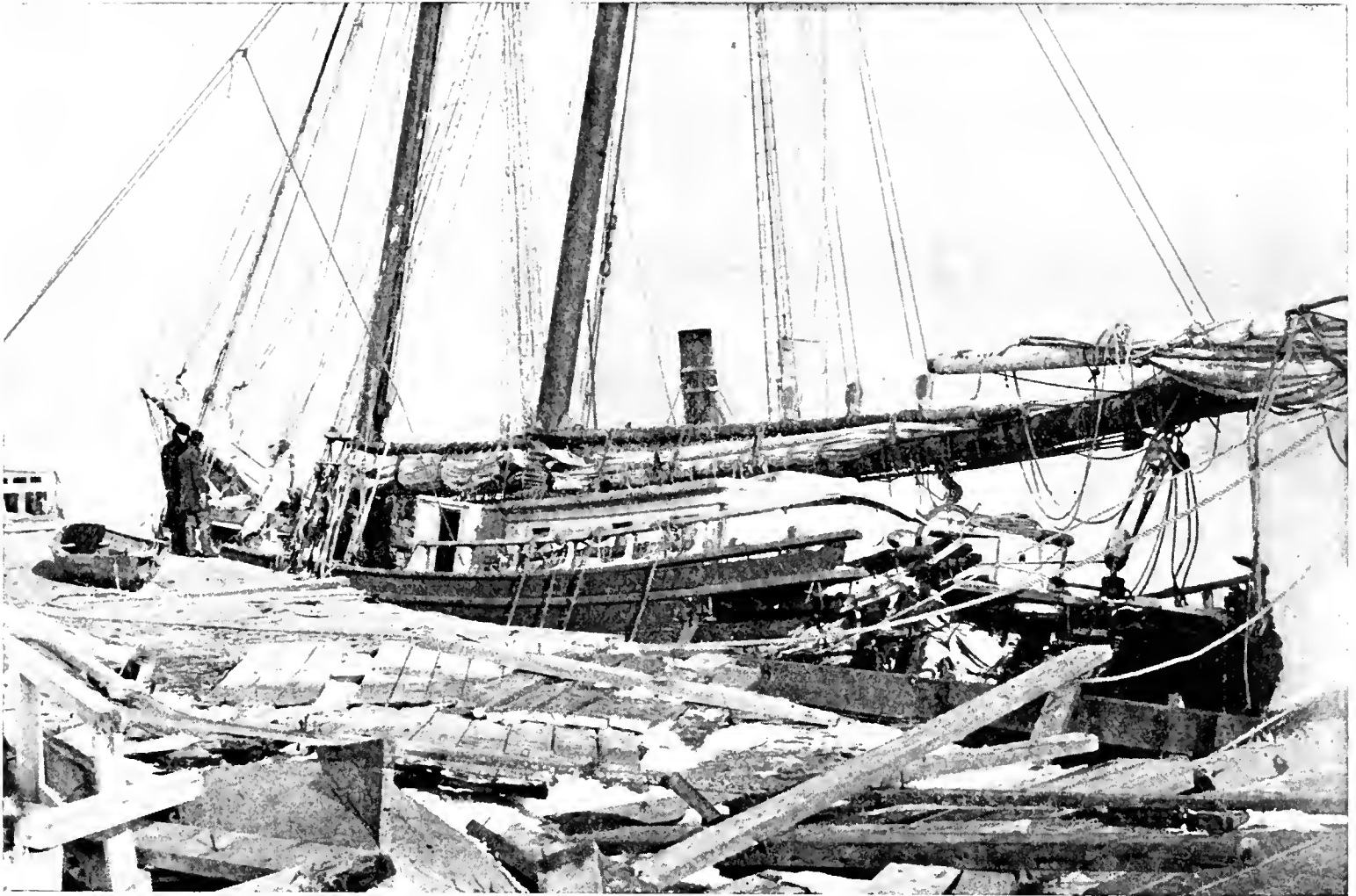
At 9.00 P. M. a stiff northeast wind was blowing, with a driving storm of snow. Before retiring for the night Mr. Bradley sent the captain of the boat's crew, with the watchman, down to the wharf to see that everything was all right there at that time and to make sure that the watchman should thoroughly understand how things were left and should remain. At 1.15 A. M., Sunday morning he was awakened by the wind and came out to see if everything was all right. He met the watchman just returning from a trip to the wharf. The latter reported a heavy gale was blowing but that the steamer was riding nicely and that everything was safe.

At 4.20 A. M. the watchman called Mr. Bradley and told him that a large two-masted schooner was drifting in near the wharf. He hastened down to the wharf, and not knowing what emergency might arise, took with him

enough large boys for a boat's crew, to be on hand in case they should be needed. The schooner, which proved to be the "Seraphine," Captain N. W. Chute, from Bear River, N. S., was seen between the clouds of snow which the wind hurled in from the sea to be dragging very slowly on to the beach, but towards a point far enough away from the wharf to clear it. About 7.15 A. M. one of the boys who had been stationed on watch came running with the information that another vessel was in near the North End beach and that the crew were clinging to the rigging. This was found out later to be the "Virginia," Captain John S. Stanley, from Mt. Desert, Me. Immediate attention was given to an attempt to rescue these unfortunate men, but with the very best efforts possible only one of the three men was saved, and he in such an exhausted condition from the cold and exposure that for several hours it was doubtful if his life would be saved. This young man was the son of Captain Stanley, one of the men who was lost. When he finally did recover consciousness he had no recollection of how he was saved from the wreck, or of what had occurred in the hours which had passed since then. This schooner soon went entirely to pieces, and when the storm ceased all that remained of her was a few fragments of the hull and rigging washed upon the beach. She was loaded with a cargo of paraffine wax, about four hundred barrels in all, and these were scattered all over the Island. About three hundred of these barrels we recovered and piled up near the wharf.

Shortly after the rescue of the young man from the wreck of the "Virginia," the "Seraphine," the first schooner which had been seen dangerously near, drifted in past the breakwater and upon the beach in front of the boat house.

The scene at the wharf was now such as is rarely looked upon. Never in the lifetime of most people will such an experience be met with. Such grandeur and power as the waves presented have no standard of comparison to which they can be likened. It was simply a battle of winds and waves against everything which lay in their way, and there seemed to be noth-



VIEW FROM "CHILTON'S" HOUSE OF THE "FRED A. EMERSON," SHOWING SOME OF THE DAMAGE WHICH SHE DID.

ing strong enough to resist their power. The large, heavily-loaded schooners were cast upon the beach as toys might be, or torn to pieces upon the rocks and their cargoes and timbers carried wherever the tides were strongest.

About 9.00 A. M. another two-masted schooner, the third, hove in sight through the snow, driving straight toward the "Seraphine," but being lighter, since she had no cargo, she swung around and drifting in was carried completely under the stern of the Seraphine, where she lay between that schooner and our stone wharf, a wreck. This was the "Watchman." Captain Alexander Morrison, from Calais, Me. Her crew of four men were rescued, taken to the house and cared for.

A fourth schooner, the "Fred A. Emerson," Captain William E. Blake, from Boothbay Harbor, Me., now came in sight, dragging three anchors. She was so far out towards the

channel, though, that there seemed no danger but that she would clear the wharf, and if she struck at all, go aground somewhere near the South End of the Island. Imagine our dismay then, when we saw that apparently she was changing her course and was driving in towards our wharf and breakwater. Up to this time but little damage had been done to the wharf or the boats. The floats were fast and the steamer riding securely. The "Fred A. Emerson" struck the breakwater first but soon tore away and came pounding around on to the wharf. The captain, fearful that his vessel would go to pieces from the collision with the wharf, slipped his port cable, thus letting his boat in between the wharf and the breakwater. At the corner of the wharf she struck against one of the huge corner piles, eighteen inches in diameter, and broke it off like a twig. Freed from this momentary obstruction the "Fred A. Emerson" struck

the "Pilgrim," smashing her bow, cut the hawsers which fastened the steamer to the wharf and breakwater and snapped the chains which moored the floats, thus setting them loose with the boats which were lashed upon them. The "Pilgrim," now secured only by her stern line, swung around out of the way of the "Fred A. Emerson" only to fill through the hole in her bow and sink. As we saw her go down we all felt as if we were standing by the grave of an old and trusted friend. At first it did not seem that the damage would be irreparable, since the steamer could be raised, after the storm was over, and saved. Alas, this was not to be! The "Fred A. Emerson" was gradually settling backwards towards the beach, sweeping the rail entirely off from the north side of the wharf as she went and breaking planks and timbers. It was not long before she reached the place where the "Pilgrim" lay with only the very top of her smoke stack visible above the water to mark the spot where she had gone down. Then the top of the smoke stack disappeared, too, the roof of the pilot house was tossed up on the schooner's anchor chains, and we knew that the staunch steamer which had carried us safely so many times would never make another trip.

When the "Fred A. Emerson" finally brought up and could go no farther, it was found that she lay squarely on all that was left of the "Pilgrim," with her keel resting directly against the steamer's boiler and engine. The crew of the schooner, four men in all, were rescued, taken to the house and cared for. This made in all nine men who were revived and sheltered until the storm was over and they could get away.

In the meantime all but one of the dikes about the Island had been broken down by the tidal wave, and all the low land was a rushing sea, making six islands out of one. Not only did the breaking in of the tide cause a great deal of extra work, from the fact that it will be months before the timbers, floodwood and general debris which was floated all over the lower parts of the Island can be cleaned up but it also did incalculable damage to the many acres of land which were flooded.

Several acres of low grass land which, protected by the dikes, had been mowed of late each year will require to be drained again before they will be available, while the harm done by the water washing over a piece of ground at the South End which had been plowed for the first time this year cannot be fully estimated until next spring. When the tide was highest the stone wharf and the roadway up even with the boathouse were flooded, so that passage for those who rescued the sailors from the schooners and were trying to save property about the wharf was dangerous in the extreme. Not only were the waves beating through but the water was filled with floating barrels, driftwood and the planks from the broken wharf. The wrecked condition in which this part of the wharf was left is well shown in one of the illustrations which we give in this number. Another place where much damage was done was along the beach road. The force of the waves washed out many rods of the road and displaced the large timbers which were the foundation of the road on the side towards the water. Where the waves broke over the embankment and the water rushed into the low ground by the Storage Barn it flooded the piggery which is located in the basement, and it was only by great effort that men wading to their waists in icy cold water rescued the hogs from their pens. In fact, from the moment when the first alarm was given, early Sunday morning there was no time for many hours when our entire force was not actively engaged. At the wharf and along the beach constant effort was being put forth to save life and property. At the barns, on the dikes and about the Island all that was possible was done to stem the force of the flood and lessen the damage which it was doing, while at the house every one was busy caring for the rescued sailors or ministering to the wants of those who were at work in the bitter cold of the storm outside.

How great the total amount of damage will be it is impossible now to say. A conservative estimate has placed the loss at \$10,000 and it seems probable now that this sum will be under rather than over the final figures.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 2. No. 8.

PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS.

December 1898.

Our Lecture Course

Friday afternoon, November 11, Hon. Richard C. Humphreys and some friends came to the Island to tell us about the trip which he and a party of about fifty made in Mexico early in the year. They had a special train with an observation car attached. After stopping at New York they went through most of the Southern States, stopping at New Orleans. He told us about the safe deposit vaults which are in a fine building there. These vaults are several feet below the surface of the river and are built so as to keep the dampness out. On the bottom and on the sides for the first layer is masonry, then iron, cement and plaster.

The party stopped at San Antonio, Texas, and visited the famous prison there, and soon after crossed the Rio Grande and were in Mexico. They visited the Alamo, where so many Americans were slaughtered by the Mexicans, many of the battlefields of the war with the United States and the place where General Grant received his first promotion. This was before the capture of the City of Mexico. They stopped at the City of Mexico a short time and had the honor of shaking hands with President Diaz of the Mexican Republic.

One of the strange things Mr. Humphreys told us was that when the poor people of Mexico have a funeral they hire a coffin and return it after they bury the person. The cost for a funeral is all the way between two dollars and two hundred dollars. While they were there they saw a hundred dollar funeral. The coffin was drawn in a black hearse by four black horses, and a number of carriages followed. He spoke of the way they make love in Mexico.

The lover is only allowed to see his girl while one of her parents is there, and then behind bars. After telling more about it Mr. Humphreys said, "He has my sympathy, and I don't care to live in Mexico." At one place where they went up one of the mountains in a train, they could see all the different orchards and farms laid out in good order and it looked so beautiful that he called it the "Paradise Opal." After he had told us about half the story he left the room to dress up in a regular Mexican costume. In Mexico all the clothing is made to order and he had to have it made for him. When he came in he wore a large sombrero which was peaked at the top, a pair of tightly fitted pants which buttoned on the side, and an ornamented blanket which was thrown around his shoulders. This is called a "serape." The sandals which he wore were leather on the bottom, with straps to go over the toes and a larger strap at the back to keep his heels from slipping back. He went down into a cave which was two hundred feet below the place in the side of the mountain where he went in. They went down a flight of stone steps and over a path. There was a stream of water about twenty feet wide running through it and it was very deep. The roots of trees and shrubs came through the roof of the cave down to the bottom and then began to grow again. They were from one to four inches in diameter. He cut off one or two and brought them home, with other things. Sunday is the chief market day, and then one can see the places around the market crowded with men and women trying to sell their goods. At some of the churches where they went there were stands of things which the priest had blessed and people were selling them. Some of the

churches are very beautiful inside, but the poor people give almost all they have to keep them. Instead of electric cars they have old horse cars which have been sent down from cities in the United States. They visited some mines where they have got already as much as \$1,000,000,000 worth of silver. The ways in which they get the silver are the old-fashioned ways. A large room with a steel floor is filled up with silver ore about three feet deep. Then some mules are put in and some men drive them around. They crush the silver out and it stays on the bottom. A mule lives about six years after it begins to work in there, and a man about eight. They get very poor wages and the owner is a very rich man. They visited orange, olive and various other kinds of orchards and ate the fruit. They have strawberries every day in the year. The best strawberries they had were sold to them by a young girl. He advised us all if we were going to Mexico to go now, before the things are changed as they are beginning to get American customs and dress. After he had finished he showed us some things which he had brought. There were some of the roots which he got in the cave, a sea horse which greatly resembles a horse and was seven inches long, some Pacific coast barnacles which are ten times as large as the ones around our wharf, some shells and a piece of sea urchin. The costume was shown all around and when he got through it was after four o'clock. Mr. Bradley thanked him in behalf of the boys for coming and telling us about his trip, and then we went out to play the rest of the day.

MERTON P. ELLIS.

Making Christmas Presents

Some of the boys have started to make presents for Christmas. They send in requisitions for wood of any kind they wish. They get the wood in the shop and take what kind they wish. Some make paper-knives, rulers, book-racks, and other things. The paper-knife and ruler are made mostly of maple and the book-rack of cherry. Ernest Austin is making a double book-rack.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.

The Band Concert at South Boston

On Wednesday, November 2, our Band and Orchestra, assisted by the Misses Niles, gave a concert at the Dorchester Street M. E. Church. We started from the Island at six o'clock and went to Park Pier from where we had only a short walk to our special car. We then rode directly to the church and were let in by Mr. Ham. At eight o'clock we went into the main room, took our places and the concert began. Each boy had a white carnation pink in his button hole. There were quite a number of graduates present, and the church was full. The pieces that received the most applause were the cornet solo by Howard B. Ellis and "The Last Ride," by Miss Ila Niles. After the concert was over Mr. Full, the minister of the church, came and shook us by the hand. We then went out to the room where we had first come in and cocoa and cake were served to us. There also we had a chance to speak to the graduates. We then went out and took our car and came back to the steamer. When we came back to the Island we put our instruments away, changed our clothes and went to bed. When we got out in the morning we were telling the other boys how they had missed it.

SAMUEL F. BUTLER.

Fishing

The afternoon dining room boys, the kitchen boys and the dormitory boys sometimes go fishing when they are through their work if they have permission from the instructor who is in charge out of doors. When we first get out we report to him and ask to get permission to go. If he says, "Yes," we run down to the boat house and the first one there gets best pick of the lines, and so on till we all have one. We fish down on the T from one end to the other end of the new wharf. When the steamer boy is down there he lets us fish on the float opposite the steamer. We use shrimp for bait which Mr. Bradley buys in the city. They are very good to fish with. Lately we have been catching only ten or twelve fish in an afternoon, because, I think, the fishing season has gone past.

CLARENCE W. BARR.

Program, Thanksgiving Entertainment

FIRST PART.

SONG, *Miss Strong and Miss Wright.*
 VIOLIN SOLO, *Miss Strong.*
 LOVE'S SIGH WALTZ
 SONG, *Mr. Chamberlin.*
 ROWING
 CHARACTER SKETCHES, *Mr. Fisher.*
 VOCAL TRIO, *Mrs. Bradley, Miss Wright,*
Mr. Chamberlin.
 TABLEAU, *Rock of Ages.*

SECOND PART.

THE FLYING WEDGE

A Football Farce in One Act.

CHARACTERS.

TOM HURLBURT *Mr. Thrasher.*
 Captain of Harvard's Football Team, '98.
 PERCY SUYDAM *Mr. Elwood.*
 His friend, Harvard, '96.
 ALFRED CHESTER *Mr. Chamberlin.*
 Their chum, Harvard, '96.
 MISS CORNELIA SUYDAM *Miss Strong.*
 A chrysanthemum "bud."
 NELLIE SUYDAM *Miss Wright.*
 Her niece, and Tom's fiancée.
 KATE CHESTER *Miss Williams.*
 Her chum, Percy's fiancée.
 MARY SCRIBNER *Miss Brewster.*
 A reporter who adds spice to the situation.
 MRS. O'FLYNN *Miss Winslow.*
 Janitress, who takes a gloomy view of football.
 SCENE.-Hurlburt's rooms in "The Manhattan"

Practice for Rugby

The boys take a great liking to rugby and are playing it every time they get a chance. It is about the time for playing now, as sometimes it is a little chilly and the boys like to get warm. Every noon, if it is fair, the boys are playing. As soon as we are excused after dinner a boy gets the rugby and we go out on the field to choose sides. There may be from seven to eleven on a side. Then we play until one o'clock. Sat-

urday afternoon the first eleven get together and play two or three hours. The boys never hurt themselves although they play pretty hard. We have had the goal posts put up for this season. The first eleven have rugby suits. We have two elevens here, the first eleven and one called "The Columbians." We expect to have a very good eleven here this season.

HENRY F. MCKENZIE.

My Work in the Kitchen

I work in the kitchen in the afternoon. The first thing I do when I go into the kitchen is to draw the water in my dish pan for the dishes and wash all the dishes that are ready to be washed. Next I wash my dish pan and put it away. Then I wash down the sink. After that we get the vegetables ready for the next day's dinner. When we get the floor all scrubbed we get the dish pans again and wash the late dishes that are ready to be washed. Then we wash the sinks well and are ready to go. We have to wash windows once a week, and some days we wash the paint.

GEORGE THOMAS.

Obedience

Do not have obedience to your parents only, but to all those that are over you. A boy can be obedient but not in the way we like to see him. A boy that goes about his work grumbling is not the one that is looked up to. But the boy that goes about his work cheerfully, not necessarily laughing or whistling, but does it because he likes to do it not only for his own but for the sake of others, he is the boy who will win a place in this world. Nothing bad can come out of obedience. If you are told to do anything wrong and you do it, you are not responsible, but the one that told you to do it has the blame. Animals have obedience. Take for instance dogs. They are taught to do a great many things, but if they did not have obedience we would not have the benefit of them. Many lives would perish if it were not for these dogs, but if they had not been taught to obey they would not save these lives.

FRANK C. SIMPSON.

Thompson's Island Beacon

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Responsibility

How often in business life is the question asked, "Is he a responsible man?" What is a responsible man? The dictionary gives the meaning of the word responsible as "trustworthy, able to answer for one's conduct." That is, depending on one's own self to perform in the very best way whatever task may be given one to do.

Do not do a task in an easy, slipshod way just because the person who set you to do it did not specify how every little detail should be done. If you are ignorant of the best way to do a piece of work, even if you feel doubtful of your exact knowledge how to go to work, do not fail to ask some one who does know to show you. Then do it just as well as you can. That is being "responsible." Much more surely let it be the case that you do not slight a task which you know perfectly well how to do, because you were not told word for word to do it in just such a way. Try to think just how you have been told to do it before, and then, because you are now going to be responsible for it yourself, try and do it a little better than you did before. That is feeling a sense of true responsibility.

Try to fit yourself in every way you can to do all your tasks, whether they be lessons or work, in the very best way. That is feeling a sense of your responsibility. Many years ago, when Queen Victoria was only a little girl and while her uncle, William IV, was still King of England, she came to her mother one day and said, "Mother, I cannot see who is to come after Uncle William unless it is myself." When told that she was the heir apparent to the throne she said, "Then I will be good." So early as that she felt a sense of her responsibility, and because she did and never has ceased to feel it through all her reign of over half a century, she has become the most successful and the best beloved queen the world has ever known.

There was once a rear brakeman on a local train on one of the railroads near Boston. He was a good-natured fellow, pleasant and accommodating, and popular with the passengers, but he did not realize the responsibilities of his position. One evening there was a hard snowstorm and his train was delayed. Between two

stations the train came to a quick halt. The engine had blown off a cylinder head. An express train was due in a few minutes on the same track. The conductor hurried to the rear car and ordered the brakeman to go back with a red lantern. The brakeman laughed and said, "There's no hurry. Wait until I get my overcoat." "Don't wait a minute," the conductor said, "the express is due." Then he hurried back to the engine. But the brakeman did not go at once. He stopped to put on his overcoat and to make some other arrangements. Then he started slowly out, swinging his lantern and whistling. He had not gone ten feet when he heard the sound of the express. He rushed for the curve ahead of him but he was too late. In a moment the engine of the express had telescoped the disabled train, and the shrieks of the injured passengers were mingled with the roar of the escaping steam.

Some one may say that it is hard work to be always trying to do one's best in this way, and that it is easier to "let things go." Both these facts are true. You must make a choice. Our life material is given us at birth. Do something with it we must. We cannot throw it away, for even idleness leaves a curse upon us. One young man mingles brains with conscience, and makes the most he can of his life because he realizes that he is responsible for it. Another botches and spoils his life without purpose or aim. Too late he comes to his senses and tries to patch up the broken and wasted pieces. Alas, he will find that it is a sorry apology to leave for the magnificent possibilities which were his, and the bitterness of his condition will be increased by the knowledge that he alone is responsible for it. Responsibility to one's self and to God cannot be shirked even if that due to our fellow men has been avoided.

© M. B. Thrasher

Notes

Nov. 1. George B. Perry began work for Mr. F. I. Tillotson, Warren, Vermont.

Nov. 2. Began repairing bake-oven.

Band and Orchestra gave an entertainment at the Dorchester St. Church.

Nov. 3. Teachers visiting schools in Brookline.

Company X held its regular meeting.

Nov. 4. William J. Pedgrift engaged as office boy for Dr. Albert N. Blodgett, 51 Massachusetts Avenue.

Second batch of material for the brick oven freighted in the scow.

Wm. Garrison Reed gave venison sufficient for a meal for the whole school, some of his own shooting in the Maine woods.

Nov. 6. Sunday. Mr. Leavitt conducted the afternoon service.

Grew Garden Prizes awarded in the evening to the following boys:

1st Prize, John F. Barr,

2nd Prize, Phillippe J. Parent,

3rd Prize, Leo T. Decis,

4th Prize, Selwyn G. Tinkham.

Nov. 8. Mr. Berry visited Thomas Fairbairn at Alton, N. H.

Nov. 9. Company M, Phillips Chapel, gave a complimentary entertainment to Company X.

Nov. 10. Set out ornamental and quince trees.

Nov. 11. Workmen completed re-modeling the brick oven.

A number of the instructors attended a reading by James Whitcomb Riley.

Hon. Richard C. Humphreys gave a very interesting account of his trip through Mexico.

Nov. 13. Sunday. Mr. Wm. Hawley addressed the boys in the afternoon.

Nov. 14. Took onions to market.

Freighting dressing from the city in the scow.

Nov. 15. Freighting dressing.

More onions to market.

John Wilson & Son of Cambridge gave one lot of books.

Nov. 16. Shipping onions.

Freighting dressing.

Nov. 17. Company X held its regular meeting.

Nov. 20. Sunday. Mr. Fisher conducted services.

Nov. 22. Freighting flour in the scow.

Nov. 23. Finished freighting invoice of flour.

Former Assistant Superintendent Mr. John C. Anthony passed the night here.

Nov. 24. Thanksgiving Day.

Mr. D. H. Jones, Manager of the Oak Grove Farm furnished ice cream for Thanksgiving through the courtesy of Mr. John C. Ham.

Graduates George Buchan, John E. Bete, William G. Cummings, George E. Davis, Benjamin F. Gerry, William D. Hart, Clarence W. Loud, John A. Lundgren, John W. O'Neil, William J. Pedgrift, John M. Scott, and Frank P. Wilcox passed the day here.

Game of football in the afternoon.

Entertainment in the evening.

Nov. 26. Mr. Thrasher visiting boys in New Hampshire.

First snow of the season.

Nov. 27. Terrific storm. Began early in the night. Four schooners came ashore. Crews all saved but two persons. Revived sailor Stanley and cared for nine of the others. Pilgrim was run down and ruined by the schooner Fred A. Emerson which also damaged the wharf, break-water and other property. Tidal wave destroyed portions of the dikes and did other damage. A fuller account of this storm will be printed in a supplement.

Nov. 28. Mr. Alfred Bowditch, Treasurer, visited the school.

Nov. 29. Schooner Fred A. Emerson hauled off the beach and towed to East Boston.

Nov. 30. Severe snow storm.

One end of the poultry house has been fitted up for the animals through the winter. The animals have a large yard, new cages and heat from the poultry house stove.

The painters have finished burning the old black varnish from the boys' beds and have replaced it with white enamel.

Our Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Day began early at the Farm School, for long before "reveille" was sounded the boys were looking around to see what the weather was. About ten o'clock the steamer arrived with twelve graduates, whom we are always glad to see. They went up into our hall and a number of them began playing on the instruments, as did some of our boys, so that we soon had quite a band. After playing a while we went out and practiced football, and obtained a good appetite for the bountiful dinner which we sat down to at twelve o'clock. Our dinner consisted of turkey, cranberry sauce, sweet and white potatoes, onions and celery, almost all of the different things being raised on our own island. For dessert we had ice cream and cake. After dinner about twenty-five boys received bundles and boxes from their relations. These consisted mostly of "goodies." At three o'clock we had a football game between the graduates and the home team. In the evening an entertainment was given by the instructors, for which some very nice programmes had been printed in our printing office. At about nine o'clock "taps" was sounded and ended a very happy day.

HOWARD B. ELLIS.

The Pick Ups

At half past seven in the morning George Burke takes some of the boys with him to pick up leaves on the avenues, lawns and gardens. We put the leaves in a bag and one boy takes them down to the pig-pen when the bag is full. When we get the work done Burke reports to Mr. Berry and if there is any more work he tells him. When the work is all done we shine our shoes and get ready for school.

JAMES A. EDSON.

Foundering of the Maria Teresa

The Spanish war vessel, the Maria Teresa, after being raised by Richmond P. Hobson, was taken to Guantanamo Bay where she was temporarily repaired. On October 30 she was taken in tow by two tugs to be towed to Hampton Roads. She encountered a hurricane off the Bahamas which not only opened the old leaks but also made new ones. Her pumps were choked with coal and water came in over her bow. In addition to this one of her eleven-inch guns broke loose. Everything that could be done to save the ship was done by the Vulcan and by the tugs, but she had to be abandoned. After the gale it was found that she had drifted upon Cat Island where upon examination her engines and in fact her after-bottom were found to have been forced up two feet from their normal position. She was abandoned for the last time and the British consul was so notified.

Our naval officers think that the other Spanish vessels cannot be raised, but the work, although stopped at present, may be taken up again by a foreign wrecking company under the direction of Lieut. Hobson who thinks that the Colon may be saved.

Working in the Marsh

One week when our teacher, Miss Strong, was away, Mr. Bradley took us over to the south end of our Island and set us to work cleaning the ditches that were covered with scum and mud on the bottom. After we got the ditches done, we strung ourselves in a long line along the edge of a ditch that ran right through the marsh where the plow could not get up near enough to the ditch because the oxen would fail in and be liable to injure themselves in some way. We took our shovels and cut it back far enough so as to leave a path between the ditch and where the marsh had been ploughed. After we got the cutting done, we cut the best of the sods that had been ploughed and put them in the lowest parts of the fields around the marsh and in the holes to make it even.

CHARLES HILL.

What the Vulcan Has Done

Between July 1 and August 13 the repair ship Vulcan, which was fitted out at the Charlestown Navy Yard, filled five hundred and twenty-eight orders for repairs and two hundred and fifty-six requisitions for supplies. The following are samples of the repairs done: mounting two guns on the Wampatuck, installing a distilling system on the Yankton, retubing boiler and casting grate bars for the Vesuvius, taking down and lining up engines of the Somerset. The Newark had two sponsons straightened and two six-inch gun carriages repaired, also a new port shutter and a machine to bend the propeller blades.

My Work Pumping

The first thing I have to do after inspection is to go out and pump half an hour with three other boys. Then I have to rake the places which have gravel on them. Then the head pumper tells Mr. Berry that we are all done. Then we have about ten minutes play time and then we go to school. There are four other boys who pump in the afternoon and do all the raking, the same as the morning boys do.

ANDREW W. DEAN.

My Work in the Dining Room

The first thing I do after the boys eat their dinner is to go down and get the aprons and the basket for the towels. Then I put some water on to heat to rinse the clean dishes in. After that I go out to the shop and chop wood until half past twelve o'clock, and then it is time to begin the work again, washing the dishes. When we are all done the boys report to Miss Galer.

JOHN J. POWERS.

Fixing the Cottages for Winter

About the first of October, the cottage owners begin to fix their cottages for winter by boarding up the windows, making storm-doors, and banking the cottages. I have made a storm door and boarded up the windows of my cottage. Nearly all the cottages have their windows boarded up. The cottages fixed in this way, banked up with snow, and having a lamp burning inside, are quite comfortable in winter.

HERBERT E. BALENTINE.

THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

Alumni

FRANK L. TRAINOR, '89, who has been in Jackson, Maine, most of the time since he left the School, writes a very cheerful letter in regard to himself. He is a teacher in the public schools of Jackson, and has many kind words for "The grand work the School is engaged in," and inquires for several of his former associates here.

RALPH O. BROOKS, '94, is well into the work of the Rhode Island College, Kingston, R. I. He was able to enter the senior class with only two studies to make up and will graduate next June, a B. Sc. The October BEACON contained a summary of his work in the English High School of Somerville.

JAMES McKEEVER, '94, whom we had not heard from for some time, is at the same place, with Mr. H. Brown, Orange, Mass., and doing finely. He is in his usual good health and good spirits and seems to be ready for anything.

ARTHUR D. THOMAS, '98, writes from his new home in Westminster, Vt., that he has a very pleasant home and will go to school this winter. He is with a Mr. Chase.

LAWRENCE F. ALLEN, '98, was visited recently and reported on as being well liked, and much pleased with his new work at the Kindergarten for the Blind, Jamaica Plain.

Thanksgiving Football Game

On the afternoon of Thanksgiving Day, about three o'clock, the football game between the Farm School boys and the graduates began. Although the ground was muddy and the rain falling a very interesting game was played, resulting in a score of nothing to nothing, as neither side scored. The game was well played and each side fought well, each man doing his part. The halves were twenty minutes each. At the end of the first half the School team had the ball on the forty-five yard line. Eight minutes for intermission were allowed. Then the second half began and was fought as hard as the first half. It ended the same, neither side scoring, and the ball being in the center of the field when time was called. The line up was as follows:

HOME TEAM

Herbert A. Hart,	Captain and L. H. B.
Guy Peterson	R. H. B.
Albert E. Pratt	F. B.
William Austin	Q. B.
Chauncey Page	C.
George Mayott	R. G.
Charles A. Edwards	L. G.
Ernest Curley	R. T.
Joseph A. Carr	L. T.
Samuel W. Webber	L. E.
Frank P. Wilcox	R. E.

GRADUATES' TEAM

William D. Hart	Captain and L. H. B.
John E. Bete	R. H. B.
Appleton Mason	F. B.
William J. Pedgrift	Q. B.
George Buchan	C.
John W. O'Neil	R. G.
Charles McKay	L. G.
Charles B. Bartlett	R. T.
George E. Davis	L. T.
John A. Lundgren	L. E.
Benjamin F. Gerry	R. E.

Mr. Bradley acted as umpire and time-keeper and Mr. Fisher as referee.

My Experience in the Band

I began my playing as a band boy on the Eb Alto. I practiced about three months on that instrument and then gave it up. Next I took the Bb Tenor and played that for a while and then I began playing in the old band on the Bb Bass. I followed this for a year and then I took up the Bb Baritone, which is the instrument I play now in the band. We have about twenty-five members in the band now. I practice about an hour or two every day. The band goes out to play twice a week. The first time I began to play I thought I would give up the idea of playing, but I kept up courage and practiced harder than I had before. Finally I saw that I could play along nicely and that I could play some pieces. The first piece that I played was "America" and after I saw that I could play an easy piece, I began to take some harder pieces, as "El Capitan," "King Cotton" and many others.

WILLIAM C. CARR.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

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January 1899.

Why We Are Thankful

One of the customs of the School is that on the day before Thanksgiving the teachers ask their pupils to write briefly some of the reasons they have for being thankful. Many of these are so unique and interesting that we print a few of those handed in this year selecting them at random from all of the classes. Evidently patriotism takes first rank with one boy, for he writes; "I am thankful that the United States has come out ahead in her war with Spain, and that so few lives were lost. I am thankful that I work in the paint shop. I am thankful for the entertainment that is given on Thanksgiving Day. I am thankful for the turkey that the sixth table will have. I am thankful that Harvard beat Yale."

A smaller boy writes; "I am thankful we can play rugby. I am thankful for the good home and health we have down here. I am thankful for the turkey. I am thankful for the pie. I am thankful for the fun we have. I am thankful that I work on the farm."

The first clause in the next will be appreciated by the teachers, who may perhaps feel like giving thanks for the same reason. The boy writes; "I am thankful that I know the names of the books of the Old Testament. I am thankful I can play rugby. I am thankful that Thanksgiving Day is near."

The material and the spiritual are closely mingled in the next. "I am thankful that I am not so bad as some people think I am; that I have nothing worse than a cold; that I have a chance to go to school; that I have so many friends; that I am not bodily injured; that I have done no others a wrong purposely; that I have been saved from last Thanksgiving Day to this."

One of the small boys writes; "I am thankful that my father is alive. I am thankful that I am not sick today. I am thankful that I go to school. I am thankful that Mr. Bradley, Mrs. Bradley and Henry got home safe."

A boy who works in the shop writes; "I am thankful that I have the cages all made. I am thankful that I am as good as I am. I am thankful for the dinner we are going to have tomorrow. I am thankful for the game of football. I am thankful for so many things that I do not know where to begin."

One of the oldest boys writes; "I am thankful for the schooling and the pleasures I am getting. I am thankful that I am in good health. I am thankful that I have gone so far these six months without getting checked. I am thankful for the good time I am going to have tomorrow. I am thankful for the work I have. I am thankful for playing in the Band. I am thankful that I have a good teacher and I hope she will have a good time tomorrow. I am thankful for what Mr. Bradley has done for me. I am thankful that I have a good mother and I hope she is all right."

Plainly one boy's thoughts run more to people than to things, for all he writes is; "I am thankful that Mr. Bradley and Mrs. Bradley are good and healthy. Also my brother and friends."


Another writes; "I am thankful for my home. I am thankful for the turkey and sweet potatoes. I am thankful that I can go to school. I am thankful that I am not a girl. I am thankful that I am in Sloyd. I am thankful I can have some fun. I am thankful that I don't get checked any more than I do. I am thankful that I can read and write."

Still another; "I am thankful for my health. I am thankful that all my friends and relations have been spared. I am thankful for the many favors that have been done for me. I am thankful that my country came out victorious in the Spanish and American war. I am thankful that I have so many friends with me all the time to help me."

The one who succeeded in thinking of the most things to be thankful for in the time given wrote; "I am thankful that I have a home to live in. I am thankful that I have a good school, and teachers with whom I can get an education. I am thankful that I have a mother. I am thankful that this school was founded and so many boys taken care of. I am thankful that I have a chance to learn a trade. I am thankful for what Mr. Bradley has done for me. I am thankful that I have a chance to play on an instrument. I am thankful that I am not so bad a boy as I would be. I am thankful that I have a chance to save my money. I am thankful for the many opportunities which this school gives me. I am thankful that the United States tried to free the Cubans."

One of the very smallest boys writes; "I am thankful that I am not in the place I was a year ago. I am thankful that I am in a good home to enjoy Thanksgiving Day. I am thankful that we came out victorious in the war with Spain. I am thankful that we have such a good president as McKinley."

An older boy writes; "I am thankful to Mr. Bradley and the Managers for having the graduates come here on Thanksgiving Day to pass the day with us. I am thankful for learning as much since I came here as I have. I am thankful for having visiting days and writing days so that we can see our friends and relatives and hear from them. I am thankful to my teacher for being so good to the boys and teaching them so much as she has."

 M. B. Thrasher

He is the most powerful who governs himself.

Snowballing

When the snow is good the boys are always throwing snowballs. When we are dismissed some of us run outside and when the rest of the boys are going to the Hall throw snowballs at them. Almost always a lot of boys get hit. Some make a snow man and see who can knock his head off first; but most of the boys get two sides of about six or seven on a side, get a distance apart and begin to fire at each other. It is great fun, and hardly ever a boy gets hurt. On Washington's Birthday we have two sides of nearly all the boys in the School, with two forts, and the victorious side gets a trophy box. C. ALFRED H. MALM.

Learning to Play in the Band

Most of the boys ask to be in the Band, but July fifth, 1896, Mr. Bradley came into the schoolroom while the boys were sitting in their seats and asked, "How many boys want to practice on an instrument, and so form a new band?" There were quite a number of us who wanted to try. Those who did not want to try went to bed and the rest stayed in the room. Then our band teacher, Mr. Morse, tried us all in singing. Those who could not sing he would not let try. Then after that he stood us all up in a row and came along and looked at our teeth. Then he asked us what instrument we wanted. I said, "The clarionet." Others said different ones. The first thing we wanted to do the next day was to go and practice. It took me a whole day to learn to blow a certain note, and three days to learn to play a scale. We all wanted to practice a good deal when we first started but this soon died out. The boys would rather play than practice. Saturdays when Mr. Morse came he would ask each one of us separately to show him what we could do. Some would play scales and others would play lessons in our instruction books. Then he would tell us something about time and music. After we got so that we could, he had us play lessons together. Then he had us play pieces. When one got so that he could read music quickly and play nicely he would put him into the regular band if there was a chance. HENRY W. CHICKERING.

The Ash House

Down back of Gardner Hall there is a little house called "the ash house," where all the ashes are sifted. There are two boys who work in the ash house before school in the morning. They have a large sieve through which they throw the ashes upon the ground. The ashes fall through the sieve and the cinders roll down in front of it, where the boys shovel them into a small sieve and pick out the clinkers. Then the cinders are put into a barrel to be burned in the washroom furnace. Mr. Berry and I fixed the paths around the ash house last fall, just before snow came, and laid a large drain pipe beside the road which runs between the ash house and Gardner Hall. Mr. Berry made a new door and a new sieve for the ash house.

CHESTER O. SANBORN.

Feeding the Cows

In the morning Archie Taylor and I have to go down to the barn cellar and grind up carrots and mangels, and sometimes pumpkins and squashes. Some of the pumpkins and squashes we have to carry down to the pigs in a wheelbarrow. After we get done we clean up around the gutter and then we go and work with the other boys.

C. NEWTON ROWELL.

The Pictures of the Christmas Story

One day before Christmas our teacher showed the boys some pictures of Christ and his father and mother, and of the angels. One was about the angels and the shepherds. The angels were telling the shepherds where Christ was born. Another picture was about Jesus in the manger, with the wise men around him giving him the gifts they had brought. There were some pictures of Christ and his mother. Some of them had Easter lilies in them. Raphael and Michael Angelo painted a good many of these pictures. Those of Christ and his mother are called "Madonnas." Some of the pictures are in London. Others are in Paris and in Florence, and one of the most famous is in Dresden, Germany.

EDWARD L. DAVIS.

The Youth's Companion

There are a number of boys in the School who take the Youth's Companion. The papers come every Thursday night and are put on the boys' desks before they come in to chapel. Mr. Bradley also takes the paper and it is put on file in the reading room for the benefit of the boys who do not take it. In October every year the premium number is sent out. An old subscriber can get two or more subscribers, send the names in and get the premiums which he wants. The Youth's Companion publishes a great number of good stories. For many years Mr. Butterworth, the celebrated book writer, was its editor. A beautiful calendar is sent each year to every subscriber.

THOMAS BROWN.

Winter

In the winter the boys have much fun at snowballing, skating and coasting. If we get cold we can go up in Gardner Hall and swing on the traveling rings, do stumps on the parallel bars and play tag on the ladder. In the last of the fall Mr. Berry and some boys put up the toboggan chute. The boys that have not sleds take toboggans if they get permission. The boys go coasting down the playground and near the nursery. Most of the boys have skates. In the winter Mr. Berry floods a pond down by the barn and when this freezes we have very good skating.

WILLIAM FLYNN.

Building Snow Houses

Some of the boys have been building snow houses. When a boy wants to build a snow house he asks Mr. Berry if he can take a snow shovel. If he can he goes and gets one out of the band room. The boys build their snow houses out near the Hall and near the hedge and gardens. A snow house is warm inside so that a boy may go into it and get warm if he is cold. Some of the boys go into their snow houses so that other boys cannot hit them with snow balls. Sometimes two or three boys make a snow house together.

ALFRED LANAGAN.

Thompson's Island Beacon

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FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island. Boston Harbor.

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DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

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Industry

By Hon. Charles T. Gallagher.

With well settled principles of honesty is easily developed that trait which forms a part or rather is the necessary result of it, viz: industry. When I hear a boy or a man complain that he never has any luck, nine times out of ten he has neglected to develop his honesty to the point of industry.

A school mate of mine who thirty years ago was looking for an easy job where he could get off early and have his Saturday afternoons, is still looking for that kind of a job, and within a few months past complained that he had never got on, that he had never had any luck—he never will have till he learns to be true to himself and to be an active and willing worker for the benefit of himself and his fellowmen.

The head of one of Boston's largest department stores was walking through his establishment on a dull day. A pile of goods lately arrived needed to be put on the shelves. Most of the clerks without anything to do were pretending to be busy to avoid being put at this unpleasant job; the proprietor sensed the situation at a glance. One young man stood at his counter with an alert appearance, and on the approach of the head moved forward as if to be allowed to go at the pile of goods, indicating that he was not busy at his regular work; the others moved away apparently to arrange goods and otherwise dodge the job. The head called one after another of them and set them at work on the goods, noticing their manner; he soon stopped the young man who had taken hold with a will, and said; "You need not handle any more goods; superintend and direct the others." When the work was completed he told this young man he need not go behind the counter again as he had work for him elsewhere. The young man by that willing spirit and industrious habit had attracted the attention of his employer and he continued to advance until today he is a member of the firm. Similar instances are occurring every day.

So in every walk of life wherever there is work to do there is always a place and a successful future for the honest, industrious, willing boy and man. At times one may be discouraged and think his work is not appreciated or

rewarded, but if that employer is a hard task-master and does not reward merit, somebody else is watching and the reward will come; when this other man needs you in some way or other it will provide for itself.

There is hardly a successful man in business, trade or profession in Boston but owes his success to the application of these principles, and most of these men started as poor boys with nothing but the natural talents God had given them with which to accomplish their results.

Notes

Dec. 1. Mr. Mason and boys putting in akron pipe in place of the old bridge on the Cross Roads which was washed away November twenty-seventh.

Regular meeting of Company X.

Dec. 2. First use of the telephone since the storm.

Insurance people removing paraffine wax from the wreck.

Dec. 3. Manager, Mr. Francis Shaw called.

Dec. 4. Sunday. Heavy gale.
Mr. Fisher officiated.

Dec. 5. Steam lighter removing freight from the schooner "Seraphine."

Dec. 6. Calking the scow.

Dec. 7. Lowered the flagstaff topmast.

Burning debris and cleaning up generally about the boat house.

Tug Thurlow Weed dragging for anchor chains.

Dec. 8. Put up new halyards on the flagstaff.

Pennant flying for the first time since the storm.

Dec. 9. Mr. Loring A. Chase visiting the School.

Dec. 11. Sunday. Mr. Fisher addressed the boys, and Mr. Chase spoke in the evening.

Dec. 12. A large squad of boys working on the dikes. Very high tide.

Mr. Chamberlin took pictures of the float at Squantum.

Dec. 13. William Frueh admitted.

Dec. 14. Mr. Tucker Daland, Secretary, called.

Captain E. C. Glawson of the Life Saving Station passed the night here.

Dec. 15. Regular meeting of Company X.

Dec. 18. Sunday. Mr. Charles F. Fisher finished his labors here as Sunday Assistant. We regret exceedingly to part with his services, which have been valuable and more varied than is usual with our Sunday Assistant. We wish him an abundance of success in his high calling.

Dec. 19. Wm. Ryan & Co. began repairing the wharf and breakwater.

Louis Edward Means admitted.

Dec. 21. Grip appeared among the boys. Workmen began launching the schooner "Watchman."

Dec. 23. Fall term of school closed.

Dec. 25. Special Christmas Concert in the evening.

Dec. 26. Distribution of presents in the afternoon.

A. M. Stone & Co. presented each pupil of the School with a little porcelain jar of cream cheese.

Mr. L. A. Chase gave each boy a pencil for recording the grade.

Mrs. A. T. Brown gave books to the library.

Dec. 28. Very rough.

Mr. Thrasher visited Arthur Wellesley at Barre, Mass.

Dec. 29. New eighteen-foot row boat, "Priscilla," launched.

Scow load of cattle feed and other freight towed from the city by the tug Ann.

Dec. 30. Insurance people removed the last of the paraffine wax.

The last of the invoice of cattle feed towed in the scow by the tug Ann.

Dec. 31. Mr. Charles T. Gallagher sent the School a bundle of literature.

Mr. William B. Winters, who has worked on the farm since the spring of '96, in charge of the teams, finished work today and has gone to Vermont to break his colt, which promises to be a high-stepper. William is a lover of horses and knows how to take care of them well. Besides the young colt William has a good bank account started and a valuable, full-blooded Guernsey bull. William is quick and ambitious and we should be glad to see him have a place where he could have ample opportunity for developing this special instinct and ability in the care of live-stock.

Rank in Classes

The list of boys ranking first and second in their classes for the fall term was as follows:-

FIRST CLASS

Henry F. McKenzie Thomas Brown

SECOND CLASS

William I. Ellwood Carl Alfred H. Malm

THIRD CLASS

George Thomas Daniel W. Loughton

FOURTH CLASS

Robert McKay Charles F. Spear

FIFTH CLASS

Barney Hill, Jr. Samuel A. Waycott

SIXTH CLASS

George A. McKenzie Samuel Weston

Picking up Stones

Last fall some of the small boys picked up stones on a ploughed piece over at the North End. The boys had to go in front of the plough and pick up the large stones. When they came to a large one that they could not get out with their hands, they took a crowbar and pried it out. There were several large stones that had to be pulled out by the horses. There was one that took a long time to be pulled out. It was a good job.

CHARLES W. JORGENSEN.

Christmas Concert Programme

SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
RECITATION	<i>Ernest Curley.</i>
A CHRISTMAS HYMN	
RECITATION	<i>William Flynn.</i>
GRANDMA'S MISTAKE	
RECITATION	<i>Ralph Holmes.</i>
THE MANGER FAR AWAY	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
RECITATION	<i>Fred P. Thayer.</i>
A CHRISTMAS CAROL	
RECITATION	<i>Thomas Maceda.</i>
HUSH	
RECITATION	<i>Fred L. Walker.</i>
GRANDPA'S CHRISTMAS STORY	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
RECITATION	<i>Charles A. Taylor.</i>
NELLIE AND THE STAR	
EXERCISE	<i>Class.</i>
WHERE TO HANG STOCKINGS	
RECITATION	<i>Horace P. Thrasher.</i>
WRITING TO SANTA CLAUS	
RECITATION	<i>Warren Holmes.</i>
CONSTANT CHRISTMAS	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
RECITATION	<i>Clarence W. Barr.</i>
HANGING THE STOCKINGS	
EXERCISE	<i>Class.</i>
A CHRISTMAS DINNER	
RECITATION	<i>Willard H. Rowell.</i>
KINDNESS	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
RECITATION	<i>Ernest W. Austin.</i>
THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM	
RECITATION	<i>George A. C. McKenzie.</i>
TO KRISS	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
RECITATION	<i>Don C. Clark.</i>
HARRY'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE	
EXERCISE	<i>Class.</i>
ECHOES FROM THE TREES	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
RECITATION	<i>Henry F. McKenzie.</i>
A TRIBUTE TO THE FLAG	
SONG	<i>Choir.</i>
SHOUT THE HAPPY TIDINGS	

Farm School Bank

Cash in safe Dec. 1st, 1898,	\$128.83
Cash in Savings Bank	\$232.12
	<u>\$360.95</u>
Deposited during the month	\$17.77
	<u>\$378.72</u>
Withdrawn during the month	\$39.30
Balance on hand Jan. 1st, 1899	<u>\$339.42</u>
Number of deposits	51
Number of checks drawn	28

Our Christmas

We had two Christmas Days this year, Sunday and Monday, but Monday seemed the best of the two as that was when we heard from "Santa Claus." Monday morning most of the boys went skating as it was very good ice. Others went around the island for a walk, and to pass away the time until dinner, for the time seemed to go very slow. But the dinner of roast pork and other good things soon satisfied the appetites which had arisen. The hours from twelve to three o'clock seemed the longest in the year. At three o'clock the boys assembled in the schoolroom and found on their desks such things as small looking glasses, dolls and jacks-in-the box, from which a great deal of fun can be obtained. After things began to quiet down a little the presents which Mr. and Mrs. Bradley had got for the boys were given out. These consisted of nice books, sweaters, games, skates and a great number of other things. Each boy was presented with a box of candy and another of pop corn. As usual many of the boys had boxes and bundles from their friends, and more were received this year than ever before. Mr. Loring A. Chase presented each boy with a very nice lead pencil which was greatly appreciated. Mr. A. M. Stone sent each boy a jar of cream cheese which we had at breakfast. About the happiest part of the day was after the presents were given out, and the boys were looking at each others' and sharing with them in their "goodies." Although the boys had a very pleasant day of it they were pretty tired when bed time came, and were soon fast asleep.

HOWARD B. ELLIS.

The Flying Squirrel

A few months ago, Mr. Bradley got a red squirrel and a flying squirrel. He put the red squirrel in with a gray one, but they fought so much he put the gray one in the large cage with the others. He gave the flying squirrel to Henry and Henry got a small box about eight inches long and three inches wide and put a piece of fine screening on it; then he put some saw-dust in the bottom, also some cotton-batting. The squirrel crawled into it and went to sleep. After he had been in this box a little while, Mr. Bradley had two cages made of wire. Soon after this Mr. Bradley bought two English lop-eared rabbits. He put the squirrel in one cage and the rabbits in the other. This squirrel is a timid little fellow. He will not sit up and eat and crack the nuts like the others, but we have to crack the nuts ourselves. He eats nuts, bread and milk, and oats. He is about one year old.

WALTER L. CARPENTER.

To Keep Vessels from Sinking

J. W. Graydon, formerly a lieutenant in the United States army, is the inventor of a safeguard against the sinking of vessels through collision at sea. The invention consists of a mechanism for instantaneously closing the water tight bulkheads throughout a ship when an accident occurs. At present the collision bulkhead doors are closed by the crew, who are trained to act at a certain signal. Lieutenant Graydon proposes to have a series of cylinders and piston rods connected with the door of each bulkhead and operated by compressed air. Each closing apparatus will be connected with a station on deck by electric wires so that all doors can be closed at once by one officer.

Raising the Maine

A New York wrecking company has offered to raise what is left of the battle ship Maine in Havana harbor, and bring it to New York, at a cost of \$250,000. The same company will raise the armored cruiser Colon for \$1,000,000, no money to be paid if the company fails to fulfill its contract.

Alumni

WILLIAM L. SNOW, '90, has recently come into full possession of \$500, a sum made available under the terms of the will of a late well known philanthropist who provided that this sum be paid to certain young men under conditions with which the School made it possible for Snow to comply.

SUMNER PARKER, '90, has just engaged for another year as foreman on the creamery farm of C. G. Britton, Keene, N. H. This is the same position which he has filled so acceptably for the last two years. In this place he directs the work of six men and is responsible for the care of one hundred head of cattle, sixty hogs and six horses. Sumner's mother now lives with him, at Keene, and he writes of the great pleasure which he takes in the pleasant home which he has established there.

ALBERT J. TRAILL, '94, is pleasantly settled on a large stock farm in Readville from which he writes: "I have already learned some things I thought I knew." Speaking of his work, he adds: "I take care of the four farm horses, and eight dogs. When I get through I help with the fourteen stock horses and do other work."

JOHN F. PETERSON, '95, is hard at work again at his studies in the High School at Lynn. In a recent letter enclosing fifty cents to renew his subscription to the BEACON, Peterson says: "The BEACON is a great source of pleasure to me and I would not be without it for twice the money." Peterson has played on the football team of the Lynn High School the past fall, having been specially urged to do so by the captain of the team.

GEORGE B. PERRY, '95, writes us a pleasant letter from his new home on a farm in East Warren, Vermont, in getting to which he says, after describing the long car ride: "We drove right over the top of a part of the Green Mountains, and from where I am I can see Saddleback Mountain and Mount Mansfield." George likes the place greatly, and writes that he enjoys a term of singing school which he is attending.

WILLIAM N. PHILLIPS, '94, sends a very interesting letter written Christmas Day from "Headquarters Second Division, First Army Corps, Columbus, Georgia," in which he says: "Soon after receiving your letter our division, which was then third, went into camp at Lexington, Kentucky, and there I was promoted to be Chief Musician of the Second Division, with the rank of Sergeant. Ever since then I have been on the general's staff. Brigadier General Sanger was in command when I was promoted but when we came to Columbus, Major General Ludlow took command. Later he went to Havana, being appointed military governor of that city, and General Sanger again took command. Yesterday he, too, left for Matanzas, Cuba, and we expect to follow him before long. All of us boys at headquarters are having a grand time. We are living in a hotel that the Government has hired, and we find it much pleasanter than camp. The ladies of the city have raised a fund to give the three thousand soldiers in camp here a turkey dinner, and of course the men at headquarters are included. The people here celebrate Christmas as we do the Fourth of July at home, with fireworks. All of us northern boys are called 'Linkum sojers' by the people." Nesbitt closes by wishing you a "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy New Year."

THOMAS J. FAIRBAIRN, '97, writes a pleasant letter from his home with Mr. W. P. Peabody, at Alton, N. H. Evidently Tom keeps up his interest in his music, as he has a fine new clarinet, and in his letter wishes to be remembered to the Band.

ELBERT L. WEST, '98, has an excellent situation with the Laundry Stock Printing Company, Madison street, Malden, where he is giving good satisfaction setting type and doing press-work and general work about the office. From the tone of a letter recently received from him he evidently enjoys his work and his home with his uncle, Mr. John Gould Tilden, of Malden.

Diligence is the mother of good luck.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

Vol. 2. No. 10.

PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS.

February 1899.

From a Friend of Ninety

In the first number of the BEACON, that for the month of May, 1897, we spoke of the founding of the school in 1814, and very briefly reviewed its subsequent history. In the long life of the School, now almost a century, there has been much of interest to the historian and much which is very pleasant for those connected with the School to look back upon. A letter which we have recently received illustrates this so well, and is so interesting both in itself and as coming from a man of ninety years of age, that we print it entire for our readers.

Mr. French was an instructor here so long ago as the beginning of the Civil War. He is ninety years of age, but the letter which he writes would be a model for a young man. The lines are straight, the writing firm and legible, while the composition speaks for itself. Mr. French is now living in North Hampton, N. H. His letter bears the date of January fourth, 1899. After his first greeting to Mr. Bradley he writes;

"Although it is a long time since I received your kind letter with the pleasing invitation to call on you and your people, your communication is not overlooked nor forgotten.

"It would please me very much to visit the Island and people once more, and to see for myself the general plan and management of the Farm School.

"I went there in September, 1861, the first year of the War of the Rebellion. Mr. John R. Morse had just enlisted in the nine months service of the Government, and if he returned safely was to take the place he vacated that of master of the Farm School. Mr. Morse's assistant, Mr. Lewis F. Hobbs, took charge of the School. I

was assigned to the watchman's place. After doing duty sixty nights as watchman, the work of the school proving too much for Mr. Hobbs, I was assigned to the school to help Mr. Hobbs, which place I occupied until Mr. John R. Morse returned safely from the nine months engagement. After giving Mr. Morse a rest my time of engagement was up, and I returned home.

"In looking over the map in your report of the several departments it is very pleasing to me to locate by the figures every beloved spot which fond recollection brings vividly to my mind.

"Now while writing I imagine myself standing in front of the Main Building and looking down upon the garden, the orchard, the meadows, the farmhouse and the groves. Every spot on the Island has a charm for me, fixed, to stay. How I wish the charm could be made real by making you a call.

"Pardon me if I take your time to tell you one of many incidents that occurs to me. I was accustomed to join the boys in their sports. I recall one time in good coasting when the boys persuaded me to get on with them to one of their double runner sleds. The hill was long, the first part steep. When we were about half way down toward the meadow, fearing danger, I rolled off the sled. Of course I kept the motion and went rolling down the hill, the boys happy, laughing, more pleased than if I had remained on the sled.

"I love the Farm School and I love the Island. I love this beautiful, glorious world, God's world. 'He made it,-His handiwork.' I love life. It has its charms for me now. But I am nearing the end of my life's journey. If I

should live till next Wednesday, January 11th, my age will be ninety years.

"Though the boys do not know me please give to them and their teachers my kindest regards. Hoping for continued prosperity to the institution, and wishing you as Superintendent pleasure and success in your work,

Yours sincerely,

SAMUEL F. FRENCH.

"P. S. The good Lord forbid that I write boastingly of a single hour. Nothing would indicate dotage more surely. But if my life should be continued, and my health comfortable in body and mind, I should enjoy very much a call on you next summer."

Getting Feed

A short time ago a number of boys went over to the Point to get cattle feed. The scow was taken to get the feed, and as we haven't any steamer now it was towed by the tugboat "Ann." When we arrived at Park Pier a number of the boys took wheelbarrows which we had brought with us, and wheeled the bags of feed from the pier down to the scow, where another boy and myself took it and placed it in the scow. Each bag weighed two hundred pounds. There were seven tons of feed in all, and quite a lot of other freight, all of which we put in the scow. After everything was put in the scow we swept off the pier and left it as good as it was before. The "Ann" came and got us about five o'clock and we started for home.

CHAUNCEY PAGE.

Winter Vacation

Our winter vacation began December 24th and ended on January 1st. During that time the boys had a good deal of fun. Most of the boys went skating. We had skating every day but Friday and Saturday. We did not go skating on the North End pond, but we went on the ice pond and on the South End pond, where the ice was better. Most of the boys have skates, so that there are, at times, a great number of boys on the ice. Christmas morning we went skating on the South End pond and enjoyed a good game of hockey. When the

boys did not go skating they spent their time up in the Hall, some playing games while others were practicing on their instruments. Sometimes some boys would get together and start up the Band, and play several pieces.

ERNEST W. AUSTIN.

Carrier Pigeons

The carrier pigeon is a good bird for flying and carrying messages. They are used in the navy and on ocean steamboats. They can fly a long distance. Some can fly almost a mile a minute. We have thirty-four good flying carriers and several young ones. The pigeons have young often if proper care is given them. I have heard and read that pigeons having less than two eggs were not in a healthy condition. Every pigeon that we have, that lays, has always laid two eggs. I feed them with bread crumbs, corn and oats. I give them fresh water every day. They bathe as soon as permitted, being a bird liking to bathe. The pigeons have numbers on their legs so that we can tell them. The numbers are on a little piece of copper fastened with a wire so that they will not fall off. Mr. Bradley lets friends and Managers take them to their homes to let them fly. Captain Newman of the schooner "Ethel F. Merriam," doing trade between Maine and Boston, took with him six of the best flying pigeons we had, on his last voyage home last fall. That was before the great storm. He let two go at Salem. These came home, and one other which probably got away somewhere. When the storm came it beached his vessel at Gloucester. The other three were probably lost or frozen to death. These are the only ones we have lost. When Mr. Bradley wants some birds he either goes himself or tells me to go and put the wires down. The wires which I mean are hung on a piece of wood over the holes into the loft so that they will swing and let the pigeons go in but not come out. Then we get the pigeons and Mr. Bradley takes them over to the city and lets them fly back with notes or messages to the people on the Island.

JOHN T. LUNDQUIST.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand Jan. 1, '99,	\$339.42
Interest added	\$12.99
Deposited during the month	\$39.69
	<hr/>
	\$392.10
Withdrawn during the month	\$1.20
	<hr/>
Balance Feb. 1st, '99	\$390.90

Working on the Wrecks

During the late storm there were four schooners went aground on our Island. The "Emerson," which sank our steamer, was patched up, pumped out by the tug "Wolcott," and taken to East Boston two days after the storm. The others were not so fortunate. They were not taken off for about two months afterward. Men from the city were working on the "Seraphine" for a long time. They put "ways" under her and worked her down like that. The farm boys helped to get the "Watchman" off. Sand and dirt were dug out from under her, and barrels put under the hull so as to float her. This not proving successful more sand was dug from under her. The tug "Ann" tried to pull her off a number of times as did also other tugs. The tugs moved her a few feet only, but did not get her off. The "Seraphine" and "Watchman" were taken off Tuesday, January 10th. The "Emerson" was taken off on a Tuesday also. The "Virginia" is smashed all to pieces, and the farm boys are hauling it up on the beach to be burned.

THOMAS BROWN.

Relics

Looking at the collection of relics in the reading room my eye comes across an Indian hatchet, an Indian hammer and a revolver. I wonder who had that Indian hatchet. I say to myself, "Probably that same hatchet was handed down from chief to chief, and even Squanto may have used it to kill some one of our own relatives from whom we are descended." Even the hammer may have got in its own deadly work on some good person. And picking up the revolver we might say, "Could Miles Standish have had this in his own hands and killed some blood-thirsty savage, or could even David Thompson, the first settler on this Island, have used it to defend himself from the

savages?" The early settler, I think, had all he could do to defend himself from so many Indians that once roamed over Thompson's Island.

WILLIAM DAVIS.

Cottage Row News

The question of the taxation of Cottage Row property has been discussed by the Board of Aldermen, and it was decided to submit the matter to the citizens at the next election.

George Thomas has sold three shares in the Tritonia Cottage to Albert Pratt. Don Clark has sold two shares in the Willow Cottage to John Powers. George Thomas has bought six shares in the Elm Cottage from Chauncey Page.

John Powers was before the Cottage Row Court this month on a charge of trespassing in the Laurel Cottage, brought by Dana Currier. The case was decided in favor of the defendant, but was appealed to the supreme court, where, upon trial, the decision of the lower court was reversed.

Cottage Row Library

Cottage Row was recently presented with a library for the use of the citizens. This library consists of one hundred and sixty books and a number of weekly and monthly papers. All the books have had labels pasted into the front, and have been numbered. Then two catalogues were made out. One of these, after it was typewritten, was placed on the bulletin board in the playroom, and the other was kept for the use of the librarian. The librarian is appointed by the Mayor. Before we carried the books out to the City Hall those which needed it were bound and covered. Next we got the case in which we were to keep the books. Then we gave the City Hall a good scrubbing and washed the windows, table and chairs before we put the books in. Sunday was chosen as the day to give out the books because all of the boys can be out there then to get them. An assistant librarian has been appointed to help. Our book case is not yet full but we hope that some of our friends will help us to fill it with good reading matter so that it may help us along in after life.

SAMUEL F. BUTLER.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island. Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL
DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 2. No. 10. February 1899.

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Make the Minutes Count

Learn the value of spare moments. If you have finished the regular day's task in school, and ten minutes or five minutes remain before closing time, do not sit idle and say to yourself, "I've nothing to do;" or "It's no use beginning to do something just for these few minutes."

There are lessons for the next day to be

learned. They can be begun, and every minute helps. It is possible for any boy in school to be promoted from one class to another in less than a year if he deserves it. There is no boy but would like to have this done. The only question is if he is willing to work hard enough to merit the promotion.

On the floor of the rooms in the United States Mint in Philadelphia, in which gold money is made, there is a sort of lattice-work which can be taken up when the floor is swept. Out of the dust which collects in this rack each year are washed thousands of dollars worth of gold dust. The boy or man who achieves the highest success of which he is capable trains his habits to form such a rack as this. Every unoccupied minute of time becomes one of the little squares in the lattice into which drops some atom of information or some bit of accomplished work. Then when the rack is taken up and all the accumulations brought together, the whole amount is found to be large and valuable.

All this is just as true of time at work as at school. If you have finished your task in the shop or on the farm, and there does not happen to be anyone with you just then to tell you what to do next, or it lacks only a few minutes of the time for the bell to ring, do not sit down and wait, or stand around and do nothing, saying to yourself, because there is no instructor near to tell you what to do, "Oh, it's no use doing anything now. I'll just kill time." Do something, anything, rather than to waste the time. Make the result of some useful effort drop into the square for those few minutes of time.

In great factories where long webs of cloth are woven, a broken thread which is not seen at once and mended runs back through the web and ruins a long piece of valuable cloth. Every weaver who tends a loom has to put his or her

name on each web of cloth completed. Then if a broken thread is found in a web it is easy to find who is to blame, and the value of the damage is taken out of that weaver's wages. In just this way a neglected five or ten minutes may run back through a whole day's work, and injure what might otherwise have been perfect.

The number of men who have won success in life by using spare time is almost endless. Lincoln studied law during his spare hours while surveying. Franklin wrote some of his most valuable books while on shipboard going from one city to another. Joseph Cook, when a student at Andover, used to spend the few minutes while waiting for breakfast studying a dictionary on a rack in the corner of the dining room. His fellow students used to say laughingly that he had "swallowed the dictionary," but he outdid them all in fame and ability.

One of the most successful men of the present day has recently written, "No one is anxious about a young man while he is busy in useful work. But where does he eat his lunch at noon? Where does he go when he leaves his boarding-house at night? What does he do after supper? Where does he spend his Sundays and holidays? The way he uses his spare moments reveals his character. The great majority of the youth who go to the bad are ruined after supper. Most of those who climb upward to honor and fame devote their evenings to study or work or the society of the wise and good. Each evening is a crisis in the career of every young man. There is a deep significance in the lines of Whittier:-

'This day we fashion Destiny, our web of Fate
we spin;
This day for all hereafter choose we holiness
or sin.'

"Time is money. We should not be mean or stingy with it, but we should not throw

away an hour any more than we would throw away a dollar bill. Waste of time means a waste of energy, waste of vitality, waste of character in dissipation. It means the waste of opportunities which will never come back. Beware how you kill time, for all your future lives in it."

M. B. Thrasher

A School Song

We wish to have a School Song which shall be particularly appropriate to the Farm School, and wholly our own. A well known musician and composer has kindly consented to write the music for such a song if we will furnish the words.

With the thought that this is something in which every one connected with the School will be interested, especially the alumni and pupils, we have decided to ask all who are willing to do so to submit original poems which will be suitable for this purpose. From these that one will be selected which seems most desirable. Due acknowledgment will be made on printed copies of the song and through the columns of the BEACON.

In order to secure a desirable uniformity we would suggest that the poem consist of three verses of eight lines each and a chorus of four shorter lines.

Will not all who are interested in the School help us so far as they are able in securing the very best song we can have? Copy should be in our hands by April first.

Notes

Jan. 2. Winter term of school began.

Jan. 4. Blacksmith shoeing the horses.
Plumbers making slight repairs.

Jan. 5. Books and calendars from Wm. Garrison Reed.

Jan. 9. First good skating on the Ice Pond.

Mrs. T. D. Cook gave one lot of books for the library.

THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

Jan. 10. Schooners "Seraphine" and "Watchman" floated and towed to the city for repairs.

Body of Freeman Palmer, Jr., one of the crew of the wrecked "Virginia," found at night at extreme low tide.

Jan. 11. Heavy ice in the harbor.

Lawley began laying down for our new steamer.

Jan. 12. Regular meeting of Company X.

Capt. E. C. Clawson of the Life Saving Station gave one dozen boat fenders.

Jan. 13. Generous lot of calendars received from Mr. W. D. C. Curtis, Secretary of the Dorchester Mutual Fire Insurance Co.

Jan. 14. Extremely foggy, and ice in the harbor.

Jan. 15. Sunday. Mr. L. F. Reed began his services as Sunday Assistant.

Body of Capt. Stanley from the wrecked schooner "Virginia" found at low tide early in the morning.

Jan. 16. A large squad working on the dikes.

Jan. 17. Dr. Bancroft here to see various boys who have been ill with the grip.

Jan. 18. One lot of literature received from John P. Ackers.

Jan. 19. Shaw Prizes awarded.

Mr. Thrasher visited Lawrence Allen.

Manager Mr. Henry S. Grew visited the School.

Quickest trip on record by a row boat was made with the following crew: Lieut. Albert Pratt, John Irving, Richard Maxwell, Charles Edwards and Chauncey Page. They went in the "Priscilla," going for and returning with Mr. Grew from City Point in twenty-five minutes.

Jan. 24. Plumbers here repairing the rising main water-pipe which burst last evening.

George G. Noren admitted.

Jan. 26. Manager Mr. Francis Shaw visited the School.

Pile-driver here to finish driving piles about the stone wharf.

Steamer Watchman towed the John Alden to City Point with junk, returning later

in the day with freight in the Alden.

Jan. 28. Excellent skating and the boys enjoyed the evening on the pond.

Jan. 30. Hauled the scow John Alden out for the winter.

Jan. 31. Albert E. Gerry went to work for the Boston Tow Boat Co.

Meeting of the citizens of Cottage Row. The following officers were elected: Mayor, Samuel F. Butler; aldermen, Dana Currier, William C. Carr, William I. Ellwood; assessor, C. Edward Crowell; street commissioner, Frederick W. Thompson; chief of police, William Mourey; jury, Chauncey Page, John J. Irving, Joseph A. Carr, Richard N. Maxwell, Barney Hill, Dana Currier, George Mayott. The mayor appointed as clerk, William Austin; curator, William C. Carr; librarian, Herbert E. Balentine; treasurer, Frederick F. Burchsted; janitor, Walter L. Butler. The chief of police appointed as patrolmen, Joseph A. Carr and John J. Irving.

The Shaw Prizes

The semi-annual award of the Shaw prizes for the last half of the year 1898 is given below. The award of these prizes is based upon our grade system of marking. The announcement of the names of the boys who had taken the prizes was made on the afternoon of January 19th, in the first schoolroom. Mr. Grew being present. Mr. Shaw had planned to be here but was prevented from coming.

"Shaw Prizes."

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Merton Ellis | 2. William Carr |
| 3. Frank Harris | 4. Lester Witt |
| 5. Joseph Carr | 6. George Mayott |
| 7. Howard Ellis | 8. William Ellwood |
| 9. Alfred Malm | 10. Samuel Weston. |

Temple "Consolation" Prizes.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 11. Ernest Curley | 12. John Barr |
| 13. Samuel Webber | 14. George Thomas |
| 15. Carl Wittig. | |

"Honorable Mention."

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 16. Leo Decis | 17. George McKenzie |
| 18. Archie Taylor | 19. William Austin |
| 20. Henry McKenzie. | |

Why I Like Skating

As I have said a number of times that I like skating the best of any sport I have been asked to tell the reason why. Though I still say it I wonder why it is that I do. As I think of it now, it is an outdoor sport, and I like to be out in the air very much. Another reason is that we have fun playing at hockey, tag, racing and many other things. At the same time coasting is an outdoor sport, but I do not like it so well. It seems that all there is to coasting is to get on your sled or toboggan, whichever it happens to be, and go as far down hill as you can and then haul your sled or toboggan up hill again for another coast. There is a little more excitement skating. Take for instance playing cross-tag on skates. One boy will be chasing another boy and then a third boy will see his chance and skate right between them. Then the boy that is chasing will have to change his course quickly and skate for the boy that just crossed his path to try and get him to tag him. If a fellow is not a very good skater he misses the one he is chasing, and that does not please him. Now that I have compared the two things I think perhaps it is because I can skate a little better than I can coast that I like to skate so well.

LEO T. DECIS.

Looking out to Sea

From our Island we get a fine view of the vessels entering and leaving the harbor. Looking seaward the farthest land that we can see is the group of Islands named the Brewsters, which seem at all times to have a line of white surf about them. Looking more to the south we gaze upon Long Island which has a light house and battery, Rainsford Island on which a reform school is located, Peddock's Island, George's Island which has the honor of being the foundation of Fort Warren built in 1850, and Hull which is a famous summer resort. During the war we could see the white steamers as they passed between our Island and Spectacle Island, on their way to Hull or Nantasket Beach. They went that way on account of the mines in the harbor. Again, looking more to the north and east we can see Apple Island

near Shirley Gut, Castle Island on which is Fort Independence, Deer Island which has the city workhouse, Spectacle Island which has glue and soap factories, and then, again, the Brewsters. On pleasant days all of these are visible, but when heavy fogs blow in from the sea very few or none of them are to be seen.

WILLIAM I. ELLWOOD.

The Winter Birds

Although it is the winter season there are still some birds with us, and it is interesting to watch for them. If they are shy a few crumbs scattered about or a piece of meat hung upon a tree will attract them. "Birdcraft" gives the following list of birds that may be found in winter in this latitude: chickadee, snowbird, snow bunting, blue jay, winter wren, pine finch, meadow lark, tree sparrow, brown creeper, red-breasted nut-hatch, crossbill, horned lark, cedar waxwing, shrike, pine grosbeak and several species of hawks and owls.

Copper

A word about copper may not be out of place just now. Copper is one of the oldest known metals. Its name is derived from the island of Cyprus, where it was first obtained by the Greeks. In the earlier times copper does not appear to have been used by itself but always mixed with other metals, principally tin, forming what we call bronze. There is every reason to believe that next to the large quantities of tin which were obtained, one reason for the many researches for metals in Great Britain was the copper which was obtained in the mines at Cornwall. Copper is used for making brass, bronze, gun metal and bell metal, besides being used alone for sheathing and for electrical construction. Large fortunes have been made during the last few years by mining copper, and the price is constantly rising. Over one half of the world's supply of this metal is furnished by the United States.



He that won't be counseled, can't be helped.

THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

Alumni

L. F. VINTO, '72, writing in connection with some alumni business says, "It is quite a number of years since I left my old home but I think that my interest has not lessened. I quite often sit down and read over the copy of the BEACON that is in my desk, and feel a strong desire to look in on the old home of my boyhood. As the holidays come and go I think of you and the efforts you are doubtless putting forth to give the boys a good time, for I know it was so in my day. I think that I would like to go back to my young days, and sit in the old seat again and see the Christmas tree on the floor. How I used to enjoy those days."

EDWARD G. RODDAY, '94, writes an interesting letter to us from Fort Columbus, Governor's Island, N. Y., and evidently enjoys being in the service of the Government. Rodday enlisted September 8th, here in Boston, and was soon after transferred to his present location at New York, where he is enrolled in Company D, of the 13th United States Infantry.

JOHN A. BUTTRICK, '95, has just received a promotion in his line of work which speaks well for his ability and industry. The following item is clipped from a paper published at Ashton, R. I., where Buttrick has been in the employ of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company. "John Buttrick, who for some months past has been assistant to Station Agent James Canfield, has been promoted to be night operator at Blackstone, Mass." Buttrick's new position is a very responsible one. In addition to selling all tickets required for the night trains he has six telegraph wires to look after now, while it is said to be the intention of the Western Union Company to put in ten more wires and make Blackstone a test office between Boston and New York.

WALTER MCKEEVER, '95, writes an interesting letter from his pleasant home with the family of Mr. Aldrich, in Westmoreland, N. H. In writing of his school this winter he says, "I take for studies physical geography, arithmetic, reading and writing, physiology and algebra. School closes in two weeks, and then I go to

chopping up my wood for next winter. I do the work around the barn and fill the wood boxes before I go to school. After school I finish the work about the barn and milk the cows. Mr. Aldrich is drawing logs to Keene. He starts in the morning at 7.30 and don't get home in the evening until about 6, so I get everything done so he don't have anything to do only bed and grain the horses.

"I received the BEACON last week and was glad to receive it, for I think just as much of that as of a letter. It makes me think of old times, and is real interesting reading. I like to hear from the graduates, and the daily news of the School."

CHARLES E. ANDREWS, '96, has a good place as cook in Curtis' Restaurant, on Arch street, Boston, where he looks very neat in a big white apron. Andrews was married recently and his wife is employed in another restaurant belonging to the same proprietor. They have a pleasant home in South Boston, where they are keeping house.

GEORGE BUCHAN, '97, who is working for the S. A. Woods Machine Company of South Boston, has just received a small legacy from the estate of his grandfather in Manchester, England. The larger part of this he has very sensibly added to his bank account. George lives at Upham's Corner. The members of his class have met at his home and know what a pleasant home it is. He has assumed the care and responsibility of the head of the family, which consists of his mother, sister and a younger brother, and acquits himself of these responsibilities in a manly way which is a credit to himself and a satisfaction to his friends.

HIRAM C. HUGHES, '98, is at work in the wood carving department of Irving and Casson's large furniture factory in Cambridge. This is not only one of the largest establishments of the kind in the country, but is also one where very excellent and artistic work, especially in the wood carving department, is done. Hiram likes the work, and it speaks well for his industry and application that he had been there only three months when his pay was raised a dollar a week.

Thompson's Island Beacon

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March 1899.



Our Farm Products

One of the first comments which visitors to the Farm School almost always make is, "How healthy the boys look." Without doubt this very desirable physical condition is due in no small measure to the fact that this is a farm school. While in their play and sports the boys have great opportunity for outdoor exercise, as they also do in much of their work besides that connected with the farm, especially in the care and use of the boats, there is probably no other one place where they get so much healthy exercise in the open air as in

the work upon the land. Nothing else does so much as their farm work to give them the strong constitutions and the lusty physical strength which will be their best foundation for work after they leave the School.

Another factor in promoting the good health of the boys is the wholesome food which the farm furnishes in the way of fresh milk, fruit and vegetables. Only those persons can properly appreciate this who have come from farm homes to endure the watered milk and wilted vegetables of the city markets, or, born in the city, have moved out into the country to

THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

learn what really fresh food is. The table of farm products for 1898 which we print with this article will show how vital these products are to the health and comfort of the Schcol.

M. B. Thrasher.

Apples, No. 1	60 bbls.
Apples, No. 2	25 bbls.
Apples, Sweet	25 bbls.
Apples, Windfalls	100 bbls.
Asparagus	320 bunches
Beans, String	35 bush.
Beans, Lima	30 bush.
Beef killed	1115 lbs.
Beets, Table	60 bush.
Cabbage	1335 heads
Cauliflower	204 heads
Carrots	375 bush.
Celery	2240 heads
Corn, Yellow	500 bush.
Corn, Sweet	875 doz.
Corn, Stover	8 tons
Corn, Fodder	12 tons
Cucumbers	1500
Eggs	175 doz.
Grapes	2 bush.
Hay	85 tons
Hay, Salt	8 tons
Hay, Hungarian	6 tons
Hay, Second Crop	10 tons
Hides	134 lbs.
Lettuce	500 heads
Mangels	450 bush.
Milk	107,737 lbs.
Melons, Cantelopes	400
Melons, Musk	400
Melons, Nutmeg	240
Onions	425 bush.
Oats and Peas, Green	4 tons
Oats on Straw	4 tons
Pears, Bartlett	3 bush.
Pears, Common	25 bush.
Peppers, Bell	7 bush.
Potatoes	615 bush.
Peas	33 bush.
Pie Plant	1200 lbs.
Pumpkins, Cart Loads	10
Pork killed	2491 lbs.
Poultry	327 lbs.

Parsnips	20 bush.
Radishes	860 doz.
Squash, Marrow	300
Squash, Hubbard	300
Squash, Summer	540
Squash, Turbin	200
Strawberries	250 boxes
Salsify	10 bush.
Spinach	25 "
Turnips, Yellow	97 "
Turnips, White	12 "
Tomatoes, Green	45 "
Tomatoes, Ripe	150 "

Looking over the Library

A little while ago Miss Strong, John Barr and myself looked over the library to see if all the books were in their right places, marked right and named right in the catalogue. John Barr and I would read off one side, shelf and number, and Miss Strong would see if it was marked right in the catalogue. If the book did not have the right number a new one would be put on. If there were any books not catalogued Miss Strong would take them into the office, where a list was made of them. The books are numbered from one on the L side, and run up to seventy on a shelf. On the R side they run up to eighty on some shelves, and to fifty or sixty on others. On the bottom shelves they begin with one on each side. The additions are placed in front of the other books and run like the books on the bottom shelves. We have over a thousand books in the library, in all.

CARL ALFRED H. MALM.

Winter Work on the Farm

Some of the jobs which the boys on the farm do in winter are sorting over vegetables, sawing wood, and piling wood in the wood and coal cellar up at the house. Recently I have had three or four boys under my charge piling wood at the wood cellar. There was one cart at work bringing wood from the lumber yard up to us. We would put it all into the cellar, and then I would make an end, or brace, to keep the wood from falling down. Then the boys would pile the wood between the end and the wall. I liked the job. CHARLES W. JORGENSEN.

Getting Ready for the Battle

About three weeks before Washington's Birthday we chose the sides for the snowball battle which was to come on the twenty-second of February. I did not get chosen the first time but they chose me about a week afterward, on Saturday. Fred Hill took me on his side. When I came up from the farm I would run for a shovel and get right to work until the fort was all up. Every morning before breakfast you could see half a dozen boys run down to the forts to see if it had frozen in the night. I suppose there will be a pretty hard fight, but I hope that Fred Hill's side wins the battle.

GEORGE E. HICKS.

The Snowball Battle

For the two weeks previous to the day the boys were preparing for their annual snowball battle which takes place on Washington's Birthday. This year the battle was more exciting and more earnestly fought than ever before. As we had plenty of snow from which to make snow balls it made the fight a real snowball fight. We had two forts and the fight was divided into three divisions of twenty minutes each. In the first round one side defended its fort and the twenty-one bags which were inside, and in the second round the other side did the same. For the third round the bags were placed about one hundred and fifty yards from both forts, and at a given signal both sides ran for them and secured as many as they could and put inside their forts. After the fight was over the side having the most points won. The American and the German flags were used this year. The generals tossed up for choice of flags. The side which had the German flag won by eight points. Following are the names of the boys on each side:

AMERICANS.

GERMANS.

Dana Currier.

Frederick Hill.

Albert E. Pratt.

Chester O. Sanborn.

Herbert A. Hart.

Chauncey Page.

General.

Captain.

1st Lieutenant.

2nd Lieutenant.

Ernest Curley.

William C. Carr.

Color Bearer

William Austin.

Charles A. Edwards.

Privates.

Howard B. Ellis.

Michael J. Powers.

Phillipe J. Parent.

Walter Lanagan.

Frank W. Harris.

Thomas Brown.

William I. Ellwood.

William Mourey.

Albert H. Ladd.

John F. Barr.

Charles B. Bartlett.

Henry F. McKenzie.

Fred W. Thompson.

Ernest W. Austin.

Howard L. Hinckley.

George E. Hart.

Samuel F. Butler.

William Davis.

E. Carl Crowell.

John T. Lundquist.

Charles Hill.

William M. Roberts.

Charles W. Russell.

Frederick F. Burchsted.

Clarence W. Wood.

Alfred Lanagan.

Carl A. H. Malm.

William C. Morgan.

George Thomas.

Robert McKay.

Andrew W. Dean.

Warren Holmes.

Henry W. Chickering.

Clarence W. Barr.

John J. Conklin.

Arthur I. Purdy.

John J. Powers.

Charles W. Jorgensen.

Barney Hill.

Edward L. Davis.

Thomas W. Tierney.

John Tierney.

Charles F. Spear.

George F. Burke.

Carl L. Wittig.

Samuel A. Waycott.

Walter L. Butler.

George Noren.

Joseph A. Carr.

Richard N. Maxwell.

Axel Renquist.

Louis E. Means.

James A. Edson.

Daniel W. Loughton.

Frank C. Simpson.

George E. Hicks.

Frederick P. Thayer.

Ralph Holmes.

The Trophy Box

On February twenty-second Mr. Bradley gave the victorious side in the snowball battle a trophy box. Frederick Hill was the general of the victorious side. He took the German flag and the other side took the American flag. After the battle the victorious side went up into Gardner Hall and had the trophy box. It contained oranges, candy, peanuts, fancy crackers and lime juice. The trophy box is about four feet long, one foot wide and about one and one half feet high. It was full. Each boy got about a hat full of good things. EDWARD L. DAVIS.

Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

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DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

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Politeness

We sometimes hear elderly people say that when they were children the only education afforded by the schools was that of the "three R's; reading, 'riting, 'rithmetic."

In the same way the secret of success in life might be said to be bound up in three M's: "morals, mind, manners."

Certainly a successful man must be honest, straight-forward and reliable. These must be

the foundation on which earnest study is to build an education which will enable a man to understand what the world and other men have done, and are doing, and acting in the light of this knowledge live his own life so as to get from it the greatest amount of good for himself and for others. To these two qualities, though, must be added another, politeness, if they are to be used to their best advantage and real success achieved. Too often a man may be strictly honest and yet be outranked by a rogue, if the rogue has a pleasing way and the honest man be surly and disagreeable. A man may have half the wisdom of the Boston Public Library locked up in his mind, and if he is crabbed and selfish, not do half as much to add to the wisdom of the world as a man who knows little but is always ready to impart the little knowledge he does have freely and pleasantly.

"Hearts, like doors, will ope with ease

To very, very little keys;

And don't forget that two are these.

'I thank you, sir,' and, 'If you please.'"

Ross Winans of Baltimore, one of the richest men of this country, owed his great success and fortune largely to his courtesy to two foreign strangers who came to his factory one day and asked to be shown how the goods in which he dealt were made. Although his factory at the time was very much smaller than many others in the country which made the same line of goods, his great politeness in explaining the minutest details to his visitors was in such marked contrast to the limited attention which they had received in the large establishments which they had visited that they were greatly pleased. It turned out that the two strangers were two Russians sent out by the Czar to investigate. As a result of their visit the Czar soon after invited Mr. Winans to come

to Russia and establish locomotive works there. He did so and it was only a short time before his profits resulting from his politeness were more than \$100,000 a year.

"Excuse me;" "If you please;" "I beg your pardon;" and "By your leave" are very little things to say, but the putting of them before an inconvenient request often renders the granting of it a pleasure, while "Thank you;" "Certainly;" or "I am greatly obliged" goes far towards making easy the performance of a disagreeable task.

A very shrewd observer of men as well as of animals has said that if you throw a bone to a dog he will run off with it in his mouth, but with no vibration of his tail. But call the dog to you, pat him on the head, tell him he is a good old fellow and let him take the bone from your hand, and he will wag his tail with gratitude. The dog recognizes the good deed, and quite as much the manner of doing it. Those who throw their good deeds should not expect them to be caught with a smile.

M. B. Thrasher

Notes

Feb. 1. Maps and Congressional Records received from Mr. John Shaw.

Feb. 3. Mr. Thrasher visited Harry English at Norwell, Mass.

Feb. 4. Papers and magazines received from Capt. A. Ober.

Feb. 7. Rearranged boys according to size.

Feb. 8. Mrs. Bradley held a musical this evening.

Heavy snow storm. East dike broke through.

Feb. 9. Heavy ice in the harbor.

Harbor Master made a trip for us.

Feb. 10. The School chose sides for the snowball battle.

Feb. 13. Manager Mr. I. Tucker Burr renewed our subscription to The Great Round World.

Feb. 16. A new derrick which has been built in the shop was set up on the wharf today. After this small boats will be kept on the wharf and be lowered from the wharf and raised from the water by this derrick, instead of keeping them upon the floats as heretofore. The derrick will lift three tons.

Feb. 17. Derrick used for the first time. John W. and Joseph E. K. Robblee admitted.

Feb. 18. Lawley finished planking the steamer.

It has been an extremely rough, cold week. We are indebted to Harbor Master Bragdon for many times looking after our passengers and freight.

Feb. 21. Frank P. Wilcox came to spend Washington's Birthday with us.

George Mayott returned from the Eye and Ear Infirmary where he has been successfully operated upon for a cataract on his eye.

Twenty-four prints of butter received from H. A. Hovey & Co., 32 Faneuil Hall Market.

Feb. 22. Holiday. Graduates William G. Cummings, George E. Davis, Harry A. English, Albert E. Gerry, Benjamin F. Gerry, John A. Lundgren and Frank P. Wilcox were present.

Snowball battle in the afternoon.

Patriotic entertainment in the evening.

Feb. 23. Manager Mr. Francis Shaw visited the School.

Joiners began on the steamer's house.

Feb. 24. Carpenters at work on the deck of the steamer.

Feb. 25. Moonlight skating.

Feb. 26. Sunday. Band concert in the evening.

Feb. 27. Began repairing stairway and tin closet in the bake-room.

We have a limited number left of the calendars which we have printed this year, showing pictures of the wrecks here, the snowball battle and other scenes, which we shall be glad to send to those who have not received them.

Mrs. Bradley's Musical

On the evening of Wednesday, February 8, Mrs. Bradley and some of the instructors gave a musical in the Chapel which was greatly enjoyed. The programme was as follows:

PIANO DUET	<i>Mrs. Bradley and Miss Strong.</i>
	GALOP
READING	<i>Miss Winslow.</i>
	THE SOLDIER'S REPRIEVE
SONG	<i>Miss Wright.</i>
	ON THE BANKS OF THE WABASH, FAR AWAY
PIANO SOLO	<i>Mr. Littlefield.</i>
	WALTZ
SONG	<i>Miss Strong.</i>
	IF THE WORLD BELONGED TO ME
BANJO SELECTIONS	<i>Mr. Chamberlin.</i>
PIANO SOLO	<i>Mrs. Bradley.</i>
	MOUNTAIN STREAM
SONG	<i>Mr. Chamberlin.</i>
	O GOD THOU ART MY GOD ALONE
VIOLIN SOLO	<i>Miss Strong.</i>
	THE FAIRY DANCERS
SONG	<i>Quartette, the school joining in the chorus.</i>
	OLD FOLKS AT HOME

Band Concert Programme

Sunday Evening, Feb., 26

GOSPEL HYMN MEDLEY	<i>Band.</i>
	REFUGE
SOLDIER'S CHORUS	<i>Brass Quartette.</i>
	WHERE ARE THE FRIENDS OF MY YOUTH
PARAPHRASE	<i>Band.</i>
	HOW GENTLE GOD'S COMMANDS
SELECTION	<i>Trombone Quartette.</i>
	OLD FOLKS AT HOME
CORNET SOLO	<i>Howard B. Ellis.</i>
	LOVE'S GOLDEN DREAM
SONG WITHOUT WORDS	<i>Band.</i>
	LONGING
MARCH	<i>Band.</i>

Programme

Washington's Birthday.

BAND	
	SELECTIONS
RECITATION	<i>Frederick Hill.</i>
	OUR NATIONAL BANNER
ESSAY	<i>William I. Ellwood.</i>
	OUR COLONIAL FLAG
RECITATION	<i>Ernest W. Austin.</i>
	PULASKI'S BANNER
SONG	
	STAR SPANGLED BANNER
RECITATION	<i>Frederick F. Burchsted.</i>
	THE AMERICAN FLAG
FLAG DRILL	<i>Sixteen Boys.</i>
SONG	
	RED WHITE AND BLUE
RECITATION	<i>William Austin.</i>
	E PLURIBUS UNUM
ESSAY	<i>Thomas Brown.</i>
	ORIGIN OF OUR FLAG
RECITATION	<i>William Davis.</i>
	OLD GLORY
SONG	<i>School.</i>
	AMERICA
BAND	

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand Feb. 1, '99.	\$390.90
Deposited during the month	\$10.85
	<u>\$401.75</u>
Withdrawn during the month	\$36.18
Balance March 1st, '99	<u>\$365.57</u>

Working on the Farm

There are always some boys working on the farm. I work there in the afternoon. There is always something to do. Yesterday I had to saw wood. Sometimes we have to work on the dikes, and when we have had a snow storm we have to shovel snow. Other times we have to work in the lumber yard or in the barn. When it is a very cold day some boys get sent up to the house because it is too cold for them to work. I have been sent up twice in this way.

WILLIAM C. J. FRUEH.

Care of the Stock in Winter

Our cows are fed four times a day in the winter. At five o'clock in the morning they are fed with cut hay and corn stalks mixed with bran. At seven o'clock they are fed with cow-beets. They are fed again at noon with hay, and at five o'clock in the afternoon they are fed on cut feed again mixed with bran. The horses are fed three times a day with hay, meal and bran. The oxen and bull are fed three times a day with hay. The cattle are brushed off every day, and the stable is cleaned out twice a day, once in the morning and once in the afternoon. The horses are watered three times a day, and the cows, bull and oxen are watered twice.

FRANK W. HARRIS.

Repairing the Wharf

W. H. Ryan & Co. have been repairing the wharf. They put a new fender pile, something like fourteen inches in diameter, at the northeast corner. They also put a good many piles by the breakwater, and some new ribbons on. Then these were planked with three inch planks, leaving a little more than a sixteenth of an inch between the planks. All this makes the breakwater twice as strong. They have also put a new railing on the north side of the wharf, very nearly the whole length. At the lower end of the wharf they have put some big timbers alongside the wharf, and have driven about a dozen new piles there. They also repaired the steps on the south side.

ALBERT E. PRATT.

The Remains of Our Steamer

Several days after the storm when our steamer was destroyed Philip Parent and I went along the beach picking up the pieces of the steamer which had blown ashore. We took a wheelbarrow and started near the wharf, and went as far as Oak Knoll, which is on the southern part of our Island. We picked up ten wheelbarrow-fuls of wood, brass and iron work, windows and window frames. The hull, boiler and engine were all that were left where she sank. All the cabin was beaten off and broken all to pieces, and then carried on to the beach.

CHARLES HILL.

The Mariner's Compass

The invention of the mariner's compass is sometimes ascribed to the ancient Chinese, and sometimes to the Italians of the fourteenth century. It was probably first used at sea by the Finns, in the eleventh century, and its invention goes back to the prehistoric dwellers in the valley of the Oxus, a river in central Asia, from whom knowledge of it spread northward and eastward.

The first compasses were made by placing a needle of iron, rubbed with a loadstone, in a little bowl which floated in a vessel of water. It served merely to indicate the position of the north star when the sky was overcast. It did not indicate the ship's course as it does now. The old Norse sailors guarded both loadstone and needle with great jealousy, knowing that the safety of the vessel depended upon the accuracy of the instrument; but pirates shipped sometimes as honest seamen, and waiting their opportunity falsified the needle by rubbing it wrongly, so as to lead the vessel to wreck and plunder. For this a savage punishment was imposed by the "Laws of Westby," a sea code of great antiquity. The culprit had a knife thrust through his hand into the mast, and there he had to remain, without food or drink until he tore himself free in such a way as to leave a part of his hand behind. At present a card with thirty-two points is fixed to the needle which is pivoted in the center of a brass box. The compass is then suspended by gimbals.

Arms of Uniform Caliber

It is reported that the War Department has detailed three of its officers to meet two officers of the Navy Department to consider the question of the adoption of a uniform caliber for small arms and machine guns, and of a standard and uniform small arms cartridge for the use of the army, navy and marine corps, and report thereon.

A New Flag

A special flag has been designed for the Coast and Geodetic Survey, which consists of a blue field carrying a white circle with a red triangle in it

Alumni

JAMES L. MCKEEVER, '94, made us a very pleasant visit recently. He is soon to be employed as an attendant in the Epileptic Hospital at Palmer, Mass., and we hope his new field of labor will be all that he anticipates. He has been working for Mr. Wm. H. Brown of Orange, Mass., for nearly two years, where he enjoyed a very pleasant home, doing some farm work but mostly lumbering, driving team, etc. James is very thrifty and saving, consequently has a good bank account and a good record for steady habits.

EDWARD STEINBRICK, '95, who has been in charge of the farm squad since April '97 is taking a well earned vacation, visiting his friends and relatives in Boston, Providence and other places. In addition to his regular work Ed has always kept up his interest in music, adding the French horn this winter to the other instruments on which he can play. He has also regularly given the Band careful and conscientious drill, the benefit of which was very evident at the excellent concert of sacred music which they gave Sunday evening, February 26th.

JOHN F. PETERSON, '95, has just closed another term's attendance at the Lynn High School with a record very creditable to himself. "Peter" has not only worked hard in school but he has earned over fifty dollars so far during the school year by working out of school time, to help towards his expenses.

HARRY A. ENGLISH, '96, was one of the graduates who spent Washington's Birthday with us, coming up from his home with Mr. H. C. Ford at Norwell, Mass., to do so. Harry's time with Mr. Ford will be up this spring, and he plans now to begin learning the machinist's trade as soon as possible after that. He has already had the benefit of a considerable amount of mechanical work, as Mr. Ford has built a first class modern barn since he has been there, in all the work of which, from the laying of the foundations up, Harry took part. One passage from a letter of his written in the middle of the winter, shows the variety of his work also. He writes, "Mr. Ford and I have

made a frame for his heavy wagon this winter, and I made him a step ladder. We are going to make a hay cart after we get the logs hauled to the mill."

CLARENCE W. LOUD, '96, since graduating in November, 1896, has been in the office of Mr. Alfred Bowditch, treasurer of the Farm School. Clarence is an honest, faithful young man and has made himself valuable to his employer, as shown by the increased responsibility assigned to him and the steady advancement in position and salary. He lives with his mother in South Boston, who evidently takes much comfort and pride in Clarence's success and promising future; and she is joined in this by many others.

GEORGE A. ENGLISH, '97, writes us from his home in East Otisfield, Maine, to renew his subscription to the BEACON, and sends us a recently taken photograph of himself which is a very good looking picture indeed. George has just finished the winter term of school which he has been attending. From the way he writes of his work it is evident he takes an interest in it. Speaking of the stock he says, "I help Mr. Keene about the barn chores. We have ten cows, three horses, four steers, six heifers, some sheep, three pigs, a calf and sixty hens."

WILLIAM D. HART, '97, has finished work for the S. A. Woods Machine Company and is now in the employ of Bertelsen & Petersen, engineers, machinists and boiler makers, at 140-146 Border St., East Boston. Hart lives with his mother at East Boston.

GEORGE E. DAVIS, '97, who was one of the graduates who spent Washington's Birthday with us, is still working steadily with the Regal Shoe Company at 109 Summer street, from where good reports come of him. George has a pleasant home with his aunt, in Chelsea.

BENJAMIN F. GERRY, '98, is hard at work with the S. A. Woods Machine Company, on Dorr street, South Boston. We hear very satisfactory reports of the way in which Ben takes hold of his new work. Ben lives with his mother and his brother, Albert, in Chelsea.

Beacon Supplement

Thompson's Island, March, 1899.

Playing Games in the Evening

After our L. T. L. meeting is over on Thursday night the boys who belong to the company and are in the right grade stop down to play games. The boys who have games of their own are asked to bring them up to the schoolroom when they come to chapel. There are quite a number of games kept in the reading-room cupboard, and these are brought in, too. The most popular games are chess, checkers, halma and parchesi. In the tailless donkey game the donkey is pinned to the wall and the boy has his eyes blindfolded. A pin is stuck in the donkey's tail, and the one whose turn it is has to see if he can come nearer than any other boy in pinning the tail in the right place. We stay down until nine o'clock and enjoy ourselves, and then go to bed. The games are collected and put back in the reading-room.

THOMAS BROWN.

Quotations

When Miss Strong commenced school this year she thought it would be nice if the boys could learn poems and quotations, so she wrote one on the board every morning, till about the middle of the second term, and had the boys learn it. Then she said she would like the boys to learn some and put on the board themselves. She chose one boy for every morning. The boys would go to books to see if they could find any quotations to write on the board, and then Miss Strong had a note book with a good many quotations written in it which she would let the boys take. She said she would like the boys to write the quotations nicely on a piece of paper and hand them to her. Quotations do a lot of good to people. When they get old they can think of these quotations. There are lots of the quotations that will help people that have lost friends or relatives, and people that have a good many faults.

WILLIAM M. ROBERTS.

Mr. Grew's Talk

Recently we had a very interesting talk by Mr. Grew. He told us about his trip to the Philippines. It has been sometime since he was there, but his story was interesting. He said he went to a place where there were five thousand or more tame ducks stretched the whole length of a river. They were kept in a yard made of bamboo, in the night, and in the day they were let out to feed. The way the men got the ducks in was to whistle. As soon as they heard the whistle they would all make a dive for their own yard. The last duck in the yard would get a lick for being late. Mr. Grew went to an Indian camp, and the Indians saw he had a gun while all they had were spears. They asked him to go hunting wild boars. He said he would go. Before they had gone very far the sun was so hot that Mr. Grew went back to the camp to wait. After waiting a long time the Indians came with a little live boar. They gave it to Mr. Grew to take home, but before he got half way home the pig died from eating too many bananas. So instead of a live pig it was a stuffed pig.

SAMUEL W. WEBBER.

Cutting the Feed

Two other boys and myself have been helping to cut the feed for the cows. Mr. Crawford got the black horse, Dan, and put him in the power. Then he stood by the cutter and put the corn stalks and hay in so they would be cut fine. While the other two boys were handing that to Mr. Crawford I stood with a rake ready to put the feed that had been cut down the trap, and there was another boy down in the pen ready to haul it down so it would not get stuck. When we were through cutting what we had down we got up on the mow and got more down to cut.

HOWARD L. HINCKLEY.

Skating

Sometimes Mr. Berry lets all the grades go skating down on the Ice Pond by the storage barn. The first grades can always go. Some of the boys get together and have a game of tag and it is interesting to watch them. Now and then you can see some boys hold of each other's coats getting pulled around the pond. Sometimes they have a game of hockey on the ice. Each boy will get a piece of wood to hit the ball, or whatever they have to hit. One will place the ball or block of wood in the center of the ice, and yell out, "Wanty." Then the other boys will yell out, "Takey," and the game starts. When the bell rings sometimes a boy will come to call us up. Then the boys skate down the pond to the end nearest the house, take their skates off, and come up.

CHARLES MCKAY.

Pulling up the Scow for the Winter

Before the cold weather came on Mr. Bradley had the farm boys pull up the scow, "John Alden" for the winter. At high tide she was floated up on to the beach. Then we dug two holes under each side of her. After that we got two pieces of timber about twenty feet long and six inches square. We put one end of each piece into a hole on one side of the scow and pried that side up so we could put rollers and planks under it. Then we took the pieces around to the other side and did the same thing there. We laid planks all the way up to the boathouse for a track. Then we put one pulley block on the scow and another on a chain. We then put a rope through the pulley blocks with one end on the windlass, and pulled her up.

DANIEL W. LAUGHTON.

Shoveling Snow

During the last snow storm the boys had a lot of shoveling snow. The boys did the avenues, farmhouse path and the two roads, which were quite deep but easy shoveling. The farm boys shoveled the farmhouse path, a path up to the front avenue and the cow yard. Some of the drifts were over my head and some of the deepest places were about ten feet deep.

JAMES A. EDSON.

Flag Drill

One night sixteen boys, of whom I was one, stopped down to see Miss Winslow to prepare for the Washington's Birthday Concert. When she came in we lined up. There were four boys in a row and four rows. The next night we stopped down again. This time we lined up in the corner in two rows. We marched around in four or five different ways. Finally we halted, for we did not know any more. Don Clark and Warren Holmes were leaders at first but it was changed and William Roberts was made leader instead of Don Clark. We carried flags and had the concert on the evening of Washington's Birthday. It looked very pretty, so they said.

FREDERICK L. WALKER.

Learning Songs

Once in a while we learn a new song in our school, and if we get so that we can sing it well we sing it in chapel on Wednesday nights. Miss Strong will say the whole verse through, and ask us what different parts mean. Then she will repeat a line, and we say that line, and so on until we say it through. Then she will say two lines, and we do the same. She has us go through it that way a few times. Then she has us say the whole verse through. If we say it too fast she has us go over it again, so we can say it slowly. She tries to have us give good expression, just as we would talk it. Sometimes she calls on one fellow to say it, and if he makes a mistake she has him sit down and learn it right.

AXEL E. RENQUIST.

Coasting

When the boys want to go coasting they ask Mr. Berry if they can go coasting down the back road or down by the toboggan chute. In both these places we use sleds. On the chute we use toboggans. Sometimes they make places where the boys jounce and have great fun. We generally go down among the ditches but they are frozen so we do not get hurt. When the whistle blows we go up to the house again.

WILLARD H. ROWELL.

An L. T. L. Meeting

This is an account of one of our L. T. L. meetings. First the Superintendent, Miss Wright, took her chair, and then the president and secretary took theirs. The first thing that was done by the president was to call the meeting to order. The meeting was then opened by singing a piece about the "American Flag," which is a very nice song. Next the secretary's report was read, and then the news committee read the latest temperance news. This was about people in France drinking kerosene instead of whiskey, because they were too poor to buy whiskey. That shows what whiskey does. It makes people thirst so much that it leads to drinking kerosene. Then a news committee was appointed by the members of the company. Herbert Hart was appointed for the news committee for the next time. Next the treasurer's report was given. The sum in the L. T. L. bank is \$10.18, and two or three have not paid their dues. The lesson was next taken up. It was about alcohol and the blood, and about robbers going into our buildings to steal the tools so they can conquer. Alcohol is the robber and our body is the house. Our mouth is the door, and we must keep it locked, if we want to live happy, by taking the pledge as a lock. Then we sang two more songs and the meeting was adjourned. The boys in the first two grades were allowed to stay down and play games until nine by the kindness of our Superintendent, Miss Wright.

CLARENCE W. BARR.

Valentine's Day

On the eve of St. Valentine's Day Mr. Bradley gave out valentines to all the boys in the first schoolroom. These valentines caused much fun among the boys as each had something to do with our work here. Each boy had his name on his valentine so that it agreed with himself or his work in some way. Some of the best given were the "bum baker," "unreliable policeman," "mail carrier," and "carpenter."

Some people give and receive valentines without a thought of how the custom originated,

or what they do it for. Some people send them because they want people to know that they remember them. How the custom started is in dispute, but it is said that many years ago a number of folks, old maids and bachelors, would meet together, and taking pieces of paper write the names of an old maid or bachelor of their acquaintance and then drop them into a box to be mixed together. Then each would draw a paper, the name on it being his or her valentine. Most people like this practice and hope it will do good in its own way.

SAMUEL F. BUTLER.

Work in the Dormitories

At half past seven the dormitory boys come up to work. First we make the one hundred beds which are divided among the three rooms. After the beds are done we move them and begin to sweep. Two boys work on each side. The boys who are done sweeping last take up the pile of dirt. We straighten out the pillows, dust the rooms and sweep the halls and stairs. Besides this regular work we scrub the three dormitories on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Tuesday we change the water in the fire buckets, and change the sheets and pillow cases. On Friday we wash the white paint and change the water in the fire buckets, and on Saturday the boys that do not wash the white paint scrub the cupboard and stairs.

JOHN F. BARR.

Sawing Wood

The first thing in the morning I go down to the farm and work. Most every morning I saw wood. There are a few other boys that do the same work as I do. Some mornings Fred Thayer and I take the cross-cut saw and saw logs with it. We keep asking each other what time it is, until in a little while the morning is gone and we are ready to go up. Ed Steinbrick comes down and tells us to leave our saws on the saw-horses and line up. Then he will tell us to march, and we will go up to the barn and wait there until the rest of the boys are ready to go up to the house for dinner.

LOUIS E. MEANS.

One Day at the School

At a quarter of six in the morning the bugle is sounded for the boys to get up and dress and march down to the lower play room. We are given until half past six to wash and do what we wish. We then go into breakfast. At seven o'clock all except the dining room, kitchen and farm boys can play for half an hour. We then go to work in various places; some in the dormitories, shop and printing office. At half past seven, also, the Sloyd class goes out to their lesson, and the other boys go to Mr. Berry to work. At nine o'clock it is school time, and the boys go to school. At quarter past eleven the bell rings and the boys get ready for dinner. At half past eleven the boys march into the dining room. At twelve o'clock we come out from dinner and do what we wish for an hour. At one o'clock we all go to work in various places. At half past two it is school time, and all the boys that did not go to school in the morning go then. At five o'clock the boys come out from school and their work and are given half an hour in which to play and wash and get ready for supper. At half past five we go to supper. At six o'clock we come out and during the winter the small boys march up into the first schoolroom, and then, unless there is some special reason for them to stay up, go to bed. The larger boys have from six to quarter past seven to play. At that time they march into the schoolroom, and on the nights when there is not chapel those who do not stay up to read or study, or for some other business, go to bed.

GEORGE E. HART.

Going Over in the Boats

As we have no steamer at the present time, when any one from the Island wants to go over to town he has to go in a rowboat. When a boy is sent for to go in the boat he is expected to get to the wharf as soon as possible if he is not wanted at the office first for orders. When he has his orders and understands just what to do he goes down to the wharf to launch the boat and get it ready for the passengers, if any are going with him. If he is going to bring some

one back from the city he must carry a blanket or two so if the water splashes they will have something to keep it from getting on their clothing. When the boy or boys leave the Island they must know just what time the boat starts for the city, and when they leave the city they must know the time, too. When they return they take good care of the boat and see that the passengers are landed safely. They then go to the office to make out a boat report, telling when the boat left the Island and when it left the city. If they have taken any one over to the city or brought any one back, that too, must be put in the boat report, and also the amount of freight they carried either way.

CHESTER O. SANBORN.

Pocket Boy

I am pocket boy. By pockets I mean the places where they put coal down. I have to clean them them out because the rakers rake gravel down them, and when coal is put down the coal dust is left in them for me to clean out. The pockets are around the house at the cellar windows. The first thing I do in the morning is to get my broom and sweep the plank walk. Then I sweep the traps and clean out my pockets, put up my broom and get my rag and pail. Then I wash around the pump and clean my red benches. Then I put my rag and pail up and report to Mr. Berry. Sometimes I help the pickups about their work.

CARL L. WITTIG.

A Piece of Coal

One afternoon Miss Winslow showed us a piece of coal with the outlines of a leaf upon it. The other day when we were studying about the productions of the Middle Atlantic States we found that there was a large amount of coal there, so our teacher told us how it was formed. This is what she told us. Ages and ages ago large forests sprung up with shrubs, mosses and ferns, and grew. After a while they died and were covered up many layers deep and were squeezed into a hard mass. This formed coal, and now you can see on some pieces the prints of leaves and ferns imbedded in the coal.

ARTHUR I. PURDY.

Thompson's Island

Beacon

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The Boat Crew

The boat crew consists of twenty-five of the largest boys of the School, commanded by three officers from their own number, a captain, and first and second lieutenants. Each boy has a number. The captain is number one, the first lieutenant number two, and so on, to the twenty-fifth boy, who is always the last boy to have been taken into the crew.

The whole crew is never used at once, as our largest boat, the MARY CHILTON, requires but ten boys. If it is rough and very windy, in making up a crew the boys near the top of the card are selected, since they are the oldest and strongest, but if it is calm a crew of the younger boys is picked out, with an older boy in charge, so as to give them practice. To one who understands about rowing it is great fun to watch a boy who is just beginning. He will try to row the boat alone, and he rows so fast that he gets out of stroke, and he raises his oar so high that the crew say he is scraping the sky. When he puts his oar into the water he puts it down too far, and, as we say, "he catches a crab."

Besides the CHILTON we have the PRISCILLA, an eighteen-foot boat, four boys making a crew. Then there is the BREWSTER, a sixteen foot boat, two making a crew. The BRADFORD and STANDISH, each fifteen feet long, are somewhat alike and can be rowed by one boy or two. When a trip is to be made in the CHILTON the instructor picks the crew so that it does not interfere with the work about the Island. There is always an officer in charge of the CHILTON, either the captain or one of the lieutenants. The officer in charge reports to the office for instructions. While he is doing this the rest of the crew goes down to launch the boat. If there is not an instructor going the

officer in charge takes the tiller. There is a good deal of freight to be looked after and this is stored in the boat under the officer's instructions. After the trip is made and we have returned we take care of the boat. If the tide is high enough, and the CHILTON is the boat used we raise her up in the boat house, but if it is not high enough we anchor her off from the wharf. If the wind is blowing from the north we make her fast on the south side of the wharf, but if it is blowing from the south we make her fast on the north side. After we have the boat taken care of we come up to the house, the officer going to the office to make out his boat report, and the rest of the crew returning to their work.

It is not always calm when we make a trip. On the first day of the year, in the evening we made a trip, the thermometer being down to three degrees below zero, with the tide and a strong wind against us. It took us three-quarters of an hour to pull across, when we have made it in nine and a half minutes, the latter being our fastest record.

When the PRISCILLA is used it is not necessary to have the captain or one of the lieutenants. The boy that is highest on the card is in charge of the boat. It is just the same with the BREWSTER and the other small boats. The crew does not have rowing only. If there is anything happens down to the wharf the crew is called upon first, and if there are not enough of them then some of the other boys are called.

No boy has to go over twice a day if it can be helped, except the captain or a lieutenant. It is a mile and one eighth from our wharf to Park Pier. A few weeks ago we rowed down to Rainsford Island. It is three miles. We have

also rowed down to Long Island and back, two and three-fourths miles each way.

The boys consider it a privilege to go over in the boat. The officer thinks it a great responsibility and an honor to have charge of so large a boat as the CHILTON. Rough weather is not the only thing we have to contend with. In winter there is a great deal of floating ice. The one at the tiller must be careful not to get caught in it because if he does he will be carried along with it. Then there is fog. When the officer in charge leaves the office for the wharf he must be sure that he has a compass with him, and if the boat goes over after three o'clock, he has to take a lantern, in case there might be a delay and we be kept out after dark.

A boy works up in the boat crew in this way. When I first got in the boat crew I started as twenty-fourth boy. As the boys that were ahead of me went away from the School I moved up one by one until I reached the top. I have been in the crew about two and a half years.

ALBERT E. PRATT, CAPTAIN.

BOAT CREW, April, 1899.

- 1 Albert E. Pratt, Capt.
- 2 Joseph A. Carr, 1st. Lieut.
- 3 George Mayott, 2nd.
- 4 Chester O. Sanborn
- 5 Herbert A. Hart
- 6 Frederick Hill
- 7 John J. Irving
- 8 Charles McKay
- 9 William C. Carr
- 10 Richard N. Maxwell
- 11 Herbert B. Balentine
- 12 Charles A. Edwards
- 13 Ernest Curley
- 14 Chauncey Page
- 15 Phillippe J. Parent
- 16 Michael J. Powers
- 17 Frederick F. Burchsted
- 18 Frank W. Harris
- 19 Thomas Brown
- 20 Dana Currier
- 21 Henry W. Chickering

- 22 John F. Barr
- 23 William Mourey
- 24 Samuel W. Webber
- 25 Harry H. Leonard

Ducks and Sea Gulls

We have a great many ducks and sea gulls that fly in flocks around the Island. They mostly light on the southeast side. In some flocks of ducks there will be several hundred or even a thousand. They go on the mud flats when the tide is out to feed. Sometimes when the harbor is frozen you will see them in flocks around the water's edge, so black that you can't count them. In a storm you will see them riding on the white caps. At the least noise they will fly, stretching out their long necks; then all at once they will light with a "splash" in the water. Now and then, at night, you will hear a noise off in the distance. "Quack! Quack! Quack!" At night we see them fly south in large numbers, but after breakfast we see them back in the mud just the same as before. They fly without a sound, the large ones flying very swiftly but the smaller ones not quite so swiftly. In summer they go north with the sea gulls. Any one is allowed to shoot them at certain times in the year.

The sea gull is a different bird. It is much larger than the duck. They feed near a large rock on the southeast side of the Island, called "Seals' Rock," but some mingle with the ducks and feed with them. They do not all go with each other, but you will see one or two, alone, about the wharf. Now and then you will see them fly down to the water and get something and fly up again. Some of them when they are flying take a large sweep in the air and go in a different direction. You will sometimes see one hover in the air, and, making a loud cry, dart down into the water. They are pretty colors of gray and black and white. One night I was skating at the North End and I saw them fly north instead of south. They fly very swiftly. No one is allowed to shoot them.

WALTER L. CARPENTER.

As you learn, teach; as you get, give; as you receive, distribute.—*Spurgeon*.

Unable to Get Back to the Island

February sixteenth, Mr. Bradley and five of us boys went over to our landing at City Point in the Harbor Master's boat "Guardian" because there was a good deal of ice in the harbor and we could not have rowed across very easily. She towed our boat PRISCILLA. While Mr. Bradley and Albert E. Pratt went over to Lawley's on some business he left four of us to shovel snow off the landing, and a path from there out to the walk. We got that shoveled, and loaded what freight there was into the boat, and then Mr. Bradley and Pratt were coming. After he got there he asked me if everything was all right, and I said, "Yes." Next we were all in the boat trying to make headway through the ice which was packing. We tried for about an hour and a half, then gave it up. It was five o'clock then and we made our way back to the landing with Mr. Bradley and one of the boys in the stern of the boat with shovels, and the rest of us pushing with our oars. When we reached the landing Mr. Bradley went up the street and tried to get the Tug Boat Ann to take us home but she did not have water enough to make the trip and the other tugs had all put up for the night; so he told us boys to take the freight out of the boat and put it into the locker again, and haul the boat up on the float. After we had done this we took a car for the city, got supper, spent a pleasant evening and had a good sleep. In the morning we went out and did some business and then went to the boat and came home.

CHESTER O. SANBORN.

The Second Schoolroom

When the bell rings at one o'clock I go into the second schoolroom to get it ready for the boys when they come in at half past two. I sweep, dust, clean the black-board and pass out the books. The sixth class used to go to school in the forenoon, but to even things up they go to school in the afternoon now. The size of my schoolroom is thirty-three feet long and twelve and a half feet wide. On both sides there are papers of the boys' daily work. When a boy has a neat and tidy paper it is hung up on the wall.

CHARLES F. SPEAR.

Waiting

In the morning, after I get through eating my breakfast, at seven minutes of seven I go out of the dining room and go down stairs to wait on some of the instructors at their breakfast. The first thing I do is to put the breakfast plates into the oven and then I put on my white apron and jacket. There is an early breakfast for some of the instructors at the same time I am eating mine. By the time I am down most of these are out and so I begin to take up the dishes that they had their food in, and wait in the kitchen to get the food for the late breakfast. About the time I get it all down the people come down. I wait on them until they are through and then I go to my work. It is the same at dinner and supper.

HARRY H. LEONARD.

Farm School Bank

Cash on hand March 1st, 1899,	\$365.57
Deposited during the month	\$21.70
	<hr/> \$387.27
Withdrawn during the month	\$7.55
	<hr/> \$379.72
Balance April 1st, 1899,	

Heard on the Campus

George Mayott has two pair of "goggles" as a result of his visit to the Eye and Ear Infirmary. Some say they add greatly to his appearance and they certainly enable him to read and study much more easily than he could do before he had them.

The Laurel Cottage has a nice new door, made by our skilled workman, Dana Currier.

This month the stamp craze is at its height.

Boys jumping rope; spring is near.

City Hall is undergoing a reformation, thanks to our industrious Mayor and his helpers.

The members of the Class of '98 extend their best wishes to Walter Lanagan.

Our old friends the crows and blackbirds have made their appearance.

What's the matter with our L. T. L. president? "He's all right."

Thompson's Island Beacon

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Action

By Hezekiah Butterworth.

A successful life depends upon powers that all may exercise,- energy and perseverance. It is within the reach of all. "The hand of the diligent," says the proverb, "shall rule." Not more surely does the crop reward the labor of the farmer, than success the active, persevering efforts of the candidate for an honorable place and name. Wealth and hereditary hon-

ors cannot impart scholarship, nor link names with the great discoveries of science, nor make men pre-eminent in the halls of state or in the studies of art.

"Destiny is not

About thee, but within: thyself must make

Thyself; the agonizing throes of thought,-

These bring forth glory, bring forth destiny."

All that is great and praiseworthy comes of action. Dreams and aspirations, of themselves, cannot make successful men. A day of action will accomplish more than a year of dreaming. "For me," says Cicero, "ne otium quidem unquam otiosum,"-even my leisure hours have their occupation."

How much may be accomplished by an active life may be estimated by what famous men have done in a brief period and under the most adverse circumstances. Henry Kirke White died at the age of twenty-one. Sir Philip Sidney at thirty-two. Mozart at thirty-five. Byron at thirty-six and Burns at thirty-seven. Cromwell was forty years old when he entered the army. Bunyan wrote the immortal "Pilgrim's Progress" while in prison, and the great Spanish classical work, "Don Quixote," was written under the same disadvantage. Homer, Milton and Prescott, the historian, were blind. Herschel self-educated himself in astronomy while teaching music to earn a living. Men frequently place themselves in high positions by their activity during a period comparatively brief. Many accomplish more during a single decade than in all their subsequent life.

The essentials to success place all men on an equal footing. The rich cannot become eminent for usefulness while living at ease; the gifted cannot become known to the world while avoiding exertion. If wealth is an auxiliary to

eminence, need is a powerful incentive. If unusual gifts facilitate high attainments, moderate talents promote exertion. Men of moderate abilities have made themselves familiar to the world; and civilization and progress are the work of men born to want and inured to hardship. Homer, Luther, Franklin, Burns, and Columbus, all, at some time in their lives knew what it was to want enough to eat. Aesop was a slave, and Bunyan a poor tinker. The father of Haydn was a wheelwright and a sexton. Sir Richard Arkwright was the youngest of thirteen children and apprenticed to a barber.

The world is full of disappointed men. They all possessed high aspirations in youth, but their energy was impulsive and accomplished nothing; or they allowed frivolities to ensnare them and to keep out of sight the great purpose of life. Young man, do you aspire to honor, competence and influence? Act! else your glittering day-dreams will be the nearest approach to the objects of your desire. Act! or you may write your name in water and behold the emblem of your destiny. Yield to amusement, show, idleness, waste your abilities and energies, and you will find yourself cast upon a pitiless world, when repentance is too late.

Notes

Mar. 1. Set new tide-boards on the face of wharf, for telling depth of water at different stages of the tide.

Mar. 2. The new boat STANDISH, for the steamer's tender, received from Lawley.

Semi-annual election of officers of Company X. The result was as follows:

Seniors, Pres.	Frederick Hill
Vice Pres.	William Austin
Secretary	Ernest W. Austin
Treasurer	C. Alfred H. Malm
Color Bearer	Charles McKay

Juniors, Pres.	Alfred Lanagan
Vice Pres.	Andrew W. Dean
Secretary	Thomas W. Tierney
Treasurer	George F. Burke
Color Bearer	John Tierney

Mar. 5. Manager Mr. Charles P. Curtis, Jr., called in the afternoon.

Mar. 6. Sheathed a section of the north side of the wharf rail for the protection of the rowboats.

Mar. 7. Heavy northeast storm broke in the east dike again.

Mar. 9. Mr. Thrasher visiting boys.

Mar. 11. Through the courtesy of Miss Julia Bacon a number of the boys visited her exhibition of paintings.

Mar. 15. Rowboat BRADFORD overhauled and painted.

Walter Lanagan left the School to make his home with Mr. Joseph P. Simpson of Greenland Village, N. H.

Manager Dr. John Homans, 2nd, who takes especial interest in our library, presented another generous lot of books including Harper's Pictorial War Book.

Mar. 17. Winter term of school closed.

New cold-air box finished for the furnace in Gardner Hall.

Mar. 20. Began breaking up what remained of the old PILGRIM.

New drawers placed in reading room case.

Mar. 21. Music received from Horace C. Krause, Tampa, Florida.

Steamer has reached its second stage of completion, the house being covered in.

Mar. 22. Edward B. Taylor and Harold S. Taylor entered the School.

Company X gave an entertainment which had been prepared under Miss Wright's direction. The president of the company, Frederick Hill, presided.

Telephone re-established on the end of the wharf. Since the November storm tore down the wires and broke down the poles this telephone has been located at the boat house.

Mar. 23. Repairs in bakery completed.

Mar. 24. Four more books received from

THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

Dr. John Homans, 2nd.

Mr. F. W. Aldrich of East Westmoreland, N. H. with whom Walter McKeever has been working for some over three years, passed a portion of the day with the superintendent. Mr. Aldrich cannot speak too highly of Walter.

Mar. 26. Sunday. Manager Charles P. Curtis Jr., called.

Teachers returned from their vacation.

Mar. 27. Spring term of school began.

Two books received from Mrs. E. R. Crowell.

Books and magazines received from Wm. Garrison Reed.

Mar. 29. High wind interfered with our telephone service for about twelve hours.

Mar. 30. Lawrence F. Allen returned to the School.

Mar. 31. Box of books received from Mrs. Oliver Ames, Sr. This very welcome addition to our library, which comprises nearly one hundred volumes, includes a full set of the International Cyclopedia. The remaining books are either works of standard authors which were not already in the library, or are from the best of the recently published books. The new books have been placed in one of the bookcases in the reading room, where they will not only be convenient of access but where the frequent sight of them as well as their use will recall Mrs. Ames' kindly thoughtfulness in providing us this gift.

Several times during the month Harbor Master Bragdon has extended to us the use of the steamers Guardian and Watchman. Being without a steamer of our own this is a great convenience and the courtesies of the Harbor Master and of Lieut. Mereen and officer Russell of the Watchman with their assistants, have been always much appreciated.

Rank in Classes

List of boys ranking first and second in

their classes for the winter term was as follows;

First Class

Henry F. McKenzie Thomas Brown

Second Class

William I. Ellwood C. Alfred H. Malm

Third Class

George Thomas Daniel W. Loughton

Fourth Class

Edward L. Davis Arthur I. Purdy

Fifth Class

Samuel A. Waycott Barney Hill, Jr.

Sixth Class

George A. C. McKenzie Samuel Weston



L. T. L. Meeting, March 22. In commemoration of Neal Dow's birthday.

Programme

WELCOME SONG

RESPONSIVE READING

SONG

SALOONS MUST GO

ADDRESS OF WELCOME *William C. J. Frueh.*

EXERCISE *Seven Boys.*

WHEN I'M A MAN

SONG

PROHIBITION

EXERCISE *Eleven Boys.*

PROHIBITION

RECITATION *Thomas Brown.*

SHE SAILS BY THE STARS

A LITTLE SPEECH *Ernest N. Jorgensen.*

FOR A SMALL RECRUIT

SONG

A LOYAL ARMY

EXERCISE *Five boys.*

DOES PROHIBITION PROHIBIT?

MAINE *Frank W. Harris.*

KANSAS *Don C. Clark.*

NORTH AND *M. P. Ellis and L. T. Decis.*

SOUTH DAKOTA

RHODE ISLAND *Thomas Maceda.*

DIALOGUE

SENSE VERSUS LICENSE

SONG

GOOD NIGHT.

The Monkey

The monkey I think is very funny. When he is mad he will shake his cage. One time the boy who went to feed him put the milk on the cage while he was opening the door to give it to the monkey. But the monkey thought he was too long about it and went to shaking the cage and shook the milk off the cage. Sometimes the boys fool with him and get him angry but he shakes the cage and makes them run away.

FREDERICK P. THAYER.

Harbor Lights

From our Island we can see nearly all the harbor light-houses and a number of gaslight buoys. The first lighthouse that a steamer coming in passes is Boston Light. Then in front of Fort Warren the steamer passes Bug Light. Farther up the harbor she passes between Long Island Light and Deer Island Light, and then comes past the range lights on Spectacle Island. Boston Light is situated at the mouth of the harbor. Bug Light stands on an iron frame work so that the water can not wash it away. Long Island Light is on the highest end of Long Island, facing the the sea. Deer Island Light is a revolving light, having half of its lenses red and the other half white. The range lights on Spectacle Island mark the channel for the vessels coming out from the upper harbor. FREDERICK HILL.

The Milkers

There are five milkers, two men, Howard Hinckley, Frederick Burchsted and myself. We get up at five o'clock in the morning. When we get down to the barn Mr. Crawford has the lanterns lighted. After we get our overalls on we each brush our cows and wash our hands. We each have a pail which weighs two pounds. We milk a cow and then we weigh our milk and take off two pounds for the pail. The cows give from two or three up to seventeen or eighteen pounds of milk to a milking. At night we begin at five o'clock and do the same as in the morning. Mr. Crawford strains the milk in the kitchen. There are twenty-four cows and it takes about an hour to milk them all. CLARENCE W. WOOD.

The Derrick

A new derrick has been placed at the wharf. The wood was brought to the Island by one of our rowboats. The first mast that came was season-cracked, so another was brought in its place. All the parts were made at the shop and put together before being taken to the wharf. They were taken apart and carried down to the wharf on toboggans. Patterns were made for the casting which goes on the lower part, on which the derrick swings. The bolts, lagscrews and winch were bought in the city. The place where the derrick stands is on the north side of the wharf and it swings off the float. To put the derrick up the small movable derrick was put up on blocks and a rope tied on to the middle of the new derrick, with ropes on each side. Then the derrick was let down through a hole in the wharf to the casting which it rests in. The winch was put on after the derrick was all up. It is estimated that the derrick can hoist 6000 pounds. The small boats and the freight will be pulled up by the derrick. DANA CURRIER.

The First Iron Boats

Among the first iron vessels to be built was a canal boat built of English iron by J. Wilkinson, Esq., of Bradley Forge, in 1787. Its length was seventy feet, beam six feet eight and a half inches, and plates five sixteenths. It was loaded with twenty-two tons of its own metal. The stem and stern-posts were of wood and the beams of elm.

In 1815 a small iron boat was launched at Liverpool, and fitted up as a pleasure boat. This boat was maliciously sunk by some workmen who saw that iron might take the place of wood. Later the owner turned his attention to building iron boats that could not be easily sunk.

Spain lost 80,000 soldiers in the last campaign in Cuba, chiefly from illness.

Two thirds of all the letters mailed in all the post offices of the world are written in English.

One of the current magazines is authority for the statement that grog is to be cut off from the Navy. This would be a decided step on the part of the Government towards total abstinence.

Alumni

HORACE C. KRAUSE, '82, has been filling an engagement during the past winter as a member of the orchestra of the Tampa Bay Hotel, at Tampa, Florida. In a letter recently received from him, accompanying some pieces of music which he sent to the band he wishes to be remembered to all the boys, especially to those in the band.

WILLIAM E. ODORNE, '90, writes us from Keene, N. H., where he has been employed for the past year by one of the prominent physicians there, driving and doing outside work. Odorne is interested in the Grange meetings of Keene, and writes that he enjoys attending them.

SUMNER W. PARKER, '90, writes us that he has finished work for Mr. Britton, of Keene, N. H., where he has been for some years as foreman of a large farm and creamery. He leaves this position, now, only to go into business for himself, having taken a large farm with stock and implements. Parker is full of hope for his new prospects, in which every one who knows him will wish him success. He writes, "The farm is in a high state of cultivation and has everything in the line of farming implements to carry it on with. I have decided to take it, thinking it as good a chance as I may ever have. The family will remain there and my mother will go with me. I shall probably milk about fourteen cows this summer, and I want to put in quite a lot of early vegetables for market. I am going to make butter, as I have a De Laval separator and everything in that line to work with."

GRANVILLE C. DAVIS, '91, writes us from Brockton, Mass., where he is at work as a shoe cutter on men's fine shoes for the W. L. Douglass Company. Davis has kept up his interest in music, coming into Boston every week to take vocal lessons, and he has just been singing the leading part in an opera, "The Merchant of Venice," given at the Brockton City Theater.

FRANK G. BRYANT, '94, is in the employ of the Gilman Snow-Guard Company, of 103 Merrimac street, Boston. He has recently sent us a very interesting article pertaining to

beacon lights and lighthouses, with special reference to those in Boston harbor, which we shall hope to print in the BEACON at no very distant date. Bryant lives at East Weymouth, where he has a very pleasant home. He sent us not long ago a photograph of his baby, a boy now nearly a year old. He is a very fine looking boy, too, and one of whom his father may well feel proud.

FRANK G. BURGESS, '96, has a very happy home in the family of Mr. Frederick Pickering of Newington, N. H., from where excellent reports come of him and of his work. Frank is not only said to be well liked in his home but to be very popular with the young people of the town.

WILLIAM G. CUMMINGS, '98, who is employed in the law offices of Messrs Herbert and Quincy, of 19 Milk street, Boston, has been devoting some of his spare time to journalism. He wrote an account of the snowball battle which he witnessed here not long ago which has been accepted by the Boston Journal, to be printed in their illustrated magazine.

In a letter just received from Cummings he says, "I have joined the Boston Y. M. C. A. My attention was first called to the Association by the circular which you sent me. Thank you for the same. I find it a source of pleasure to me and have become acquainted with some very good, pleasant young fellows. Thursday evening I met Appleton Mason and "Tot" Pulson there. They were both well and I think "Tot" had come to inspect the gymnasium and make up his mind as to whether he would enter the lists for the championship indoor athletic meet of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, which is to be held there soon." Cummings closes his letter, "I am getting on nicely here with my work and feel better acquainted with the people and methods than I did at first, and much more at my ease. I am becoming fairly well acquainted with the court practices and customs, and like the work very much. I trust that all at the School are well and hope that you will have a pleasant and happy Easter."

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